



# Save the Children

# RWANDA PROGRAMME



Photo Credit: Mark Kaye / Save the Children

## KEY FACTS ABOUT RWANDA

### SURVIVAL



- 1-in-20 children do not live to celebrate their fifth birthday.
- 38% of children under the age of five are stunted.

### EDUCATION



- Pre-primary enrolment stands at 20%.
- 97% of children enroll in primary school but only 60% complete primary education.
- 18% of P3 students could not read a word of a grade-level Kinyarwanda text.

### PROTECTION



- 5.5% of children aged 6 to 17 are engaged in child labor.
- 3% of children under age 5 possess a birth certificate.
- 24% of girls and 28% of boys age 15 to 19 have experienced physical violence.

## SAVE THE CHILDREN'S PRESENCE IN RWANDA

Save the Children believes every child deserves a future. In Rwanda and around the world, we work every day to give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm. When crisis strikes, and children are most vulnerable, we are always among the first to respond and the last to leave. We ensure children's unique needs are met and their voices are heard. We deliver lasting results for millions of children, including those hardest to reach. We do whatever it takes for children – every day and in times of crisis – transforming their lives and the future we share.

Save the Children has been working in Rwanda since 1994, helping thousands of separated children to trace family members in the immediate aftermath of genocide against the Tutsi. Since then, we have been working in partnership with the government and local stakeholders to promote a bright future for Rwanda's children, in areas of child rights governance, child protection, education, health and nutrition.

## WHERE WE WORK



Sources: Demographic and Health Survey 2015, Integrated Household Living Survey 4, 2015 Education Statistical Year Book and 2015 EDC Midline Fluency Assessment for Rwandan Schools.

# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS MADE FOR CHILDREN IN 2016



Rwandan children are able to enjoy more and better quality books in Kingarwanda through an innovative partnership with the government, the Rwandan book industry and civil society.



Burera District officials endorsed the Teacher Code of Conduct, which is now being used in all primary schools in the district. It was developed through a pilot with the government in 32 schools and ECD centers to support positive discipline in everyday teaching.



We facilitated national civil society and state dialogue on investment in children, which resulted in commitment of the government to establish a National Investment in Children platform. The platform aims to raise investment in children to the top of the national priority agenda.



Improved confidence and skills of health providers in four districts to resuscitate newborns, prevent newborn hypothermia and encourage early breastfeeding through an in-service mentoring program with district hospital and health centre partners.

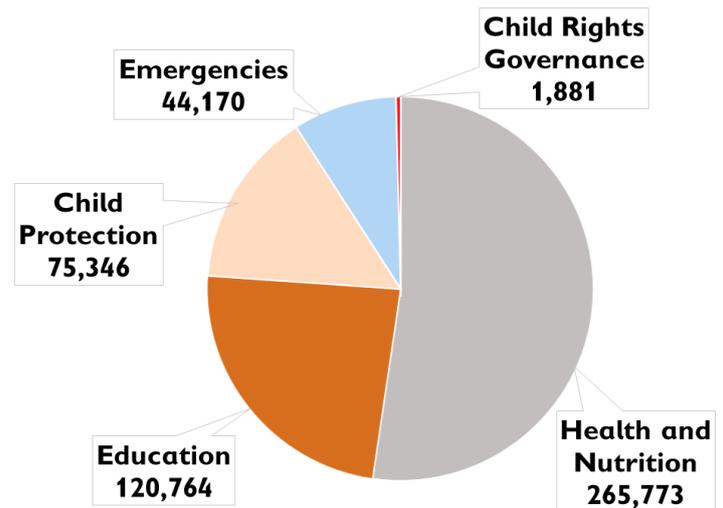


The foster care arrangement approach in Mahama Camp has helped separated and unaccompanied minors to join families.

## OUR REACH IN 2016

Total Children Directly Reached: **388,857**  
Total Beneficiaries Directly Reached: **462,741**

### 2016 Total Reach by Theme



## OUR WORK FOR CHILDREN

### Education



Photo Credit: Martin Kharumwal/ Save the Children



Photo Credit: Colin Crowley/ Save the Children

Save the Children's Advancing the Right to Read programme provides a continuum of services for children aged 0-9 that focuses on beginning early, mastering foundational literacy skills and improving overall learning outcomes. The programme includes:

#### Early Childhood Development:

Working with parents and early childhood teachers to ensure young children have a holistic early childhood development and school readiness skills.

#### Quality Basic Education:

Working with schools to improve children's early literacy skills, through learner-centred teaching approaches, provision of appropriate teaching and learning materials, strengthening school leadership for literacy, and with parents and communities to provide opportunities to read and learn at outside school.

#### Book Development and Use:

Ensuring supply and demand of age appropriate and quality Kingarwanda children's books, by working with the publishing industry actors to improve the quality and availability of locally produced books.

#### Community Engagement:

Creating a culture of reading through school-community partnerships, and influencing social behaviour change for reading at home, schools and communities.

#### Research, Policy and Advocacy:

Engaging in research and using findings for advocacy to influence policy and practice, by engaging government, civil society actors, private sector and other stakeholders.

## Child Protection



Photo Credit: Martin Kharumwa/ Save the Children

## Child Protection Systems Strengthening:

Strengthening Child Protection systems is part of the National Child care reform. The programme objective is to strengthen community-based child and family protection mechanisms to prevent, respond to and monitor cases of violence, abuse and exploitation of children. It also supports families, children and communities to actively engage in the protection of children and the prevention of unnecessary family separation.

### Protection of Children from Violence:

We want to create a violence-free environment for children while developing a vibrant and effective civil society that strives for the fulfilment of children's rights. This will be accomplished through training and raising awareness of teachers and parents to end all forms of violence against children among which physical and humiliating punishment in the home and in school.

### Protection of Children from Harmful Work:

Reduction of unnecessary family separation and unsafe migration of children from rural areas to Kigali in search of domestic work. It intends to engage different stakeholders and carry out activities to prevent unnecessary family separation, unsafe migration of children looking for survival. We respond to cases of children already engaged in child domestic work and undertake advocacy to improve child rights and protection.

### Investment in Children:

Supporting CSOs and children to participate in public planning and budgeting. Conducting budgeting analysis to inform a fair, equitable and sufficient budget share for education, child protection and health care services.

### Child rights monitoring:

Supporting CSOs and children to monitor the realization of children's rights through reporting to child rights treaty bodies and engaging with Universal Periodic Review mechanisms.

### Maternal, Newborn and Young Child Health:

Strengthening health systems to improve services at district hospitals, health centers and central level. Improving the capacity of health providers and community health workers to provide appropriate care to pregnant women, newborns and young children, as well as through mobilization and engagement of the community for behaviour change.

### Health and Nutrition in Emergencies:

Providing children, women and men with access to quality primary healthcare, maternal, newborn and child health and infant and young child feeding services in Mahama refugee camp. Volunteers are also trained to be community health workers, to support community outreach activities.

### Child Protection in Emergencies:

Providing women and children with psychosocial support, safe spaces to play and learn, and youth groups for social support. We provide child protection services including case management for separated and unaccompanied child refugees. Survivors of sexual and gender-based violence are provided with psychosocial support, case management and referral services as required.

### Community Services in Emergencies:

Ensuring the special needs of the elderly and people living with disabilities are met through community referral mechanisms and direct support.

### Education and Youth Empowerment in Emergencies:

Ensuring out of school children and youth from the Burundian refugee community have access to quality learning opportunities while equipping them with life skills. Established livelihood activities to equip refugees with life and entrepreneurship skills to promote self-reliance and hope for the future.

## Child Rights Governance



Photo Credit: Elysee Niyigenal/ Save the Children

## Health and Nutrition



Photo Credit: Mark Kaye/ Save the Children

## Humanitarian



Photo Credit: Mark Kaye/ Save the Children

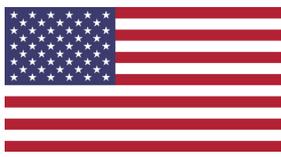
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