

UNFPA Burundi CO_ Contributions to the report on maternal mortality and morbidity in humanitarian settings

N	Questions	UNFPA – Burundi inputs
1	<p>What steps has your government or organization taken to utilize <u>a human rights-based approach in policies and programmes</u> to eliminate preventable maternal mortality and morbidity? How has the technical guidance assisted your government or organization <u>in design, implementing, revising and / or evaluating such policies and programmes</u>?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advocacy to integrate reproductive health services in emergency situation in the package of services for affected populations, ▪ In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, others implementing partners/NGOs and UN Agencies, national capacities are strengthened for responding to the RH and GBV needs of vulnerable populations in “fragile” provinces of the country, ▪ Strengthen the capacity of community health workers on the danger signs of pregnancy and on the links between human rights and sexual and reproductive health, ▪ Strengthen the partnership with humanitarian-dedicated agencies to capitalise interventions’ efficiency, including monitoring and evaluation process, ▪ Improve the quality and availability of reproductive health services in refugees camps, in partnership with UNHCR, in areas of return of Burundian refugees and in other health facilities within the country.
2	<p>Has the technical guidance assisted your Government or organization <u>in building enhanced understanding of the requirements of human rights-based approach</u>? If so, please expand upon the impact that such enhanced understanding has for the design and implementation of policies and programs in this area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Given that the government had already instituted a policy of free maternity care for all women in Burundi, this guide reinforced the importance of taking into account sexual and reproductive health needs as a human right, including in humanitarian situation. ▪ In September 2016, the government of Burundi adopted a new law for the repression and prevention of gender-based violence. It serves as an advocacy tool to call for the effective implementation of the government and partners obligations relating to women's sexual and reproductive health and rights.
3	<p>What <u>challenges</u> does your Government or organization face in implementing human rights based approach in policies and programs to eliminate preventable maternal mortality and morbidity? Please elaborate on the nature of these challenges and steps taken o address the.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Difficulties to mobilize resources, due to the socio-politic situation in Burundi and the position of some donors to reduce, reorient or suspend financial support to Burundi, ▪ Cultural social barriers particularly related to sexual and reproductive health for young people and adolescents, ▪ Low geographical coverage of maternal and reproductive health services

4	<p>With evidence indicating that majority of maternal deaths occur <u>in fragile and humanitarian settings</u> and that pregnant women may have increased medical risks in crises settings, how does your Government or organization work to apply a human rights based approach to reducing maternal mortality and morbidity in these contexts?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training of health providers on emergency obstetrical and new-born care; clinical management of rape; and treatment of malaria during pregnancy. ▪ During the repatriation process of Burundian refugees from Tanzania, UNFPA country office in Burundi had equipped health centers with emergency medical supplies and equipment including reproductive health kits and PEP Kits, ▪ Health facilities capacities near IDPs camp have been strengthened to provide reproductive health services to affected population including young people and adolescents, ▪ After the declaration of the epidemic of malaria by the government in March 2017, UNFPA country office actively participated in the response by: Providing technical support for the elaboration malaria response plan; Participating in the malaria task force put in place by the Ministry of Health in order to coordinate the response; ▪ Strengthening the capacity of the nurses and midwives on the intermittent treatment of the malaria during pregnancy (gap identified during a rapid assessment); ▪ Supporting the National Blood Transfusion Center with the reproductive health kits (RH kit #12)
5	<p>Does your Government or organization regularly <u>collect data on sexual and reproductive health in crisis settings</u>? Please elaborate on good practices and challenges in this regard.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data are regularly collected by the government of Burundi (Ministry of Health) and others partners (OCHA, IOM, Red Cross...) ▪ Some challenges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Tools are not yet harmonized b. Insufficient coordination of the interventions between partners. This negatively impacts the collection and use of data; c. There is no a specific sub-sectoral working group on reproductive health in humanitarian settings. Reproductive Health issues are discussed within the Health Sector and GBV Sub sector groups. ▪ Best practices: Strengthening partnership with humanitarian-dedicated agencies to capitalise interventions' efficiency, including monitoring and evaluation process