



Focus on Nutrition:

What is the situation?

Nearly one million children under the age of five in Burundi are chronically malnourished, according to UNICEF. 58 per cent of those children also suffer from stunted growth, while acute malnutrition levels have reached 6 per cent.

World Vision's response:

World Vision Burundi (WVB) has been putting a lot of emphasis on the area of Nutrition as a sector in its own right as well as being integrated as an important part within the Health and Food Security sectors due to the intrinsic rapport between them.

WVB is a leader in Burundi in successfully implementing the Foyer d'Apprentissage et de Rehabilitation Nutritionnelle (FARN) program, which centres on community champions, mothers but also fathers who are role models in the community to teach their peers on the use of locally available products to prepare a balanced, nutrition diet as well as raise awareness on hygienic practices.



Key achievements in Financial Year 2012:

- 21,241 malnourished children screened
- 3,564 malnourished children admitted in FARN program, out of which 3,026 of them rehabilitated
- 407 volunteers trained in the FARN approach
- 260 health workers trained in FARN approach
- 363 children admitted in a Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) program supported by WVB
- 61 health workers trained in CMAM
- 412 community health workers

Role model for her community:

"My child was going to die because of ignorance," sighed NSABIMANA Jeannette, Cherissa's mother of RUGAZI ADP; Cherissa had suffered from malnutrition. Jeannette was responding to World Vision volunteers when they went to visit her at Camumandu hill where she lives. This was two months after the rehabilitation sessions for Cherissa that she attended. She said that she had learnt a lot during the 12 days she spent in the rehabilitation sessions, especially how to prepare and feed her child a balanced diet, and how to practice better hygiene. Jeannette is now practicing at home what she learnt; her baby is recovered, and she is sharing her newly acquired knowledge with her neighbors.

Picture: malnourished children receive nutritious food, prepared from locally available products, at rural Rutegama health clinic.