





# SOCIAL MOBILISATION TO PREVENT CHILD MALNUTRITION AND KEY CHILDHOOD ILLNESSES IN BURUNDI

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#### **ISSUES**

- Burundi is a landlocked country in the Great Rift valley
- Estimated population: 11.8 million
- High chronic malnourished rate in children under 5: 52% (SMART 2018)
- Drivers of malnutrition:
  - Extreme poverty (food insecurity, disease)
  - Lack of dietary diversity
  - Poor hygiene
  - Barriers to accessing essential services

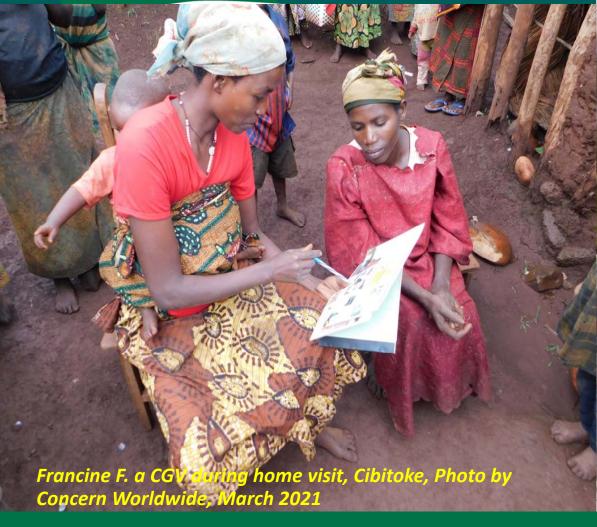


- Key partner: Ministry of Health (MoH)
- Objective: Reduce malnutrition & underlying causes
- Duration: 36 months (2018 -2021)
- Intervention area: Cibitoke province
- Donor: UKAID Match
- Budget: £851,213.71
- Target population: 58,313 children under-5

- Integrated approaches:
  - Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC)
  - Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM)
- SBCC: Care Groups
  - Project reached 47,920 households with messages and best practices on health, nutrition and hygiene
  - 480 care groups set up and 4,792 Care Groups Volunteers (CGV) identified, trained and supervised

- SBCC: Positive Deviance Hearth (PD/Hearth)
  - 87 agriculture extension workers trained on home gardens
  - 4,291 mothers sensitised on how to grow vegetables to improve their household diet
  - 4,291 mothers received vegetable seeds and 99.2% (4,260) set up home gardens
- **Challenge:** Difficult for the poorest households to contribute to PD/Hearth session and bring food for the children.

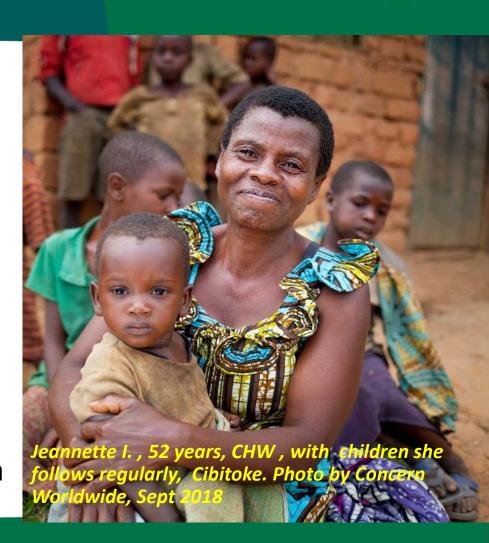
# **DESCRIPTION: SBCC**





#### Implementing iCCM:

- Increased motivation of Community Health Workers (CHWs) using Performance Based Financing (PBF)
- 529 CHWs trained and equipped
- Total children treated:
  - o 54,289 from malaria
  - 1,752 from diarrhoea
  - 1,405 from pneumonia
- Key challenge: stock-outs of drugs for malaria
  & supplies for rapid diagnostic tests



### **LESSONS LEARNED**

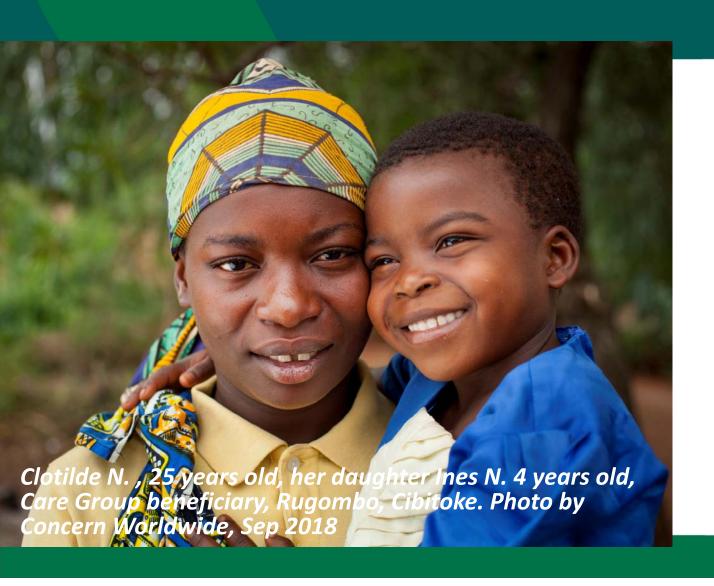
- Out of 4,291 children suffering from MAM, 3,808 improved their nutritional status, gaining at least 200g
- Engagement of communities through Positive PD/Hearth approach and Care Groups is critical in the treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)
- Ensuring regular and continuous supply of essential medicines for treatment is critical



#### **NEXT STEPS**

#### Continue to:

- Support intervention that engage and empower community members to adopt new behaviours
- Advocate with government and key partners for strengthening the forecasting for medicines and supplies and supply chain management
- Support integrated projects that both strengthens the management of malnutrition and the management of key childhood illnesses



Thank you for your attention