

## BURUNDI



### Digital Health Quick Facts


Project	Bio-fortified Value Chains for Improved Maternal & Child Nutrition in Burundi (B4MCN)
Timing	2019–2020
Phase	Developing or Adapting Solution
Programmatic approaches	Positive Deviance Hearth, Growth Monitoring and Promotion
Software	CommCare
User profile	Extension workers (CHW, volunteer or home visitor) and facility-based workers
Number of users	98
Number of collaborating health facilities	12
Number of beneficiaries reached	17,251 children aged 0–5

### Overview

A key technique that community health workers (CHWs) in Burundi use to monitor a child's level of malnutrition is to measure their weight and mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC). Because the standards for rehabilitation are given by weight for age, CHWs found it difficult to identify children who were wasting because they were underweight for their height. In addition, when CHWs used MUAC tapes to screen for severe or moderate acute malnutrition, many underweight children who did not meet those thresholds were overlooked. This meant that children suffering from malnutrition may not have been given the support that they needed.

Taking a multi-stakeholder approach that included input from multiple government ministries and UNICEF, World Vision Burundi's B4MCN project introduced the [CommCare](#) application in 2019 and trained CHWs to use the tool effectively. The project is supported by the Australian Government.





The approach has added great value, as it readily combines both weight and MUAC information to clearly indicate the child's nutritional status. Now all children in the project area who suffer from malnutrition due to wasting or being underweight receive appropriate support. Encouraged by the B4MCH project's success, donors in Burundi are looking to use this solution in other programmes.

## WHO Health Focus Areas\* Supported

- Adolescent and youth health
- Civil registration and vital statistics
- Cross cutting
- Infectious diseases (non-vector borne)
- Maternal health
- Newborn and child health
- Nutrition and metabolic disorders
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

## Technology Partners

- **Software:** Dimagi
- **Mobile Network Operators:** Econet Leo, Lumitel

## Stakeholders

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Agriculture and Livelihood
- Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- UNICEF

## Funding

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (via Australian NGO Cooperation Program)
- World Vision Australia

## Contacts

### Programme Management

Bertin Nduwayo  
Project Manager  
World Vision Burundi  
Email: [bertin\\_nduwayo@wvi.org](mailto:bertin_nduwayo@wvi.org)

### Grant Coordinator

Boniface Manirakiza  
Nutrition Grants Coordinator  
World Vision Burundi  
Email: [boniface\\_manirakiza@wvi.org](mailto:boniface_manirakiza@wvi.org)

---

\* Categories used to describe health focus areas are established within the structure of the World Health Organization's [Digital Health Atlas](#).

