



TV

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Week of 7 August 2006

Programme No. 1021

Duration: 3'58"

## FEEDING SCHOOL CHILDREN IN DROUGHT-STRICKEN RWANDA

### VIDEO

W/S FIELDS AND PLANTS

PEOPLE IN STREET

HIRVONEN ON-CAMERA

WAREHOUSE/SACKS OF FOOD

### AUDIO

#### NARRATION

A large swath of central Africa suffers from drought today. This area includes southern Rwanda where plants shrivel in parched fields. Many people have fled their homes in search for food elsewhere.

Maarit Hirvonen, director of the World Food Programme explains. (18")

#### HIRVONEN:

"Ninety percent of Rwandans live in the countryside and they are mostly dependent on agriculture and the rains. Since rains last season mostly failed, we can now see more and more hungry people going and looking for food and work." (14")

#### NARRATION

The consequences of the drought keep the World Food Programme warehouses in Kigali busy. Sacks of rice, corn meal and beans, as

## NARRATION

well as containers of vegetable oil are loaded onto trucks. The foodstuff is taken to those in most dire need. (16")

### WOMAN MOVES SACKS

A good many sacks end up in small stockrooms such as this one at the Murare Primary School in Rwanda's southern region of Butare. (8")

### CLASSROOM./CHILDREN RAISE HANDS TO GET TEACHER'S ATTENTION

The students in this school are eager to answer the teacher's questions. Hunger doesn't weaken their enthusiasm for learning. Their school is one of the participants in the World Food Programme's project to feed school children. It covers 300 elementary schools in areas where people do not have enough to eat. The on-going programme reaches 270,000 school children. They get a high-calorie morning porridge and a hot midday meal. (30")

### KITCHEN/MAIZE MEAL BOILING

Cooking to feed over one thousand hungry mouths under very basic conditions is hard work. The parents of the school children pay a nominal fee to the cooks. (10")

### TRAINING

The bell is rung to announce lunchtime. The students eat in their classrooms. The feeding programme began five years ago in 2001. It has reduced student absences from 40 percent to five percent. Children want to come to

school now. Headmistress, Ancilla Mukarwaka. (21”)

#### MUKARWAKA ON-CAMERA

MUKARWAKA: (In French)

“If you saw them in the year 2000, they were all very thin. Today our students are robust.” (8”)

#### CHILDREN EATING

NARRATION

A hungry child cannot concentrate on learning. Food ensures that he or she gets an adequate education. And education again strengthens the country’s ability to develop. Drocella Nyirakarama benefits from the feeding programme. (16”)

#### NYIRAKARAMA ON-CAMERA

NYIRAKARAMA:

“The food helps me not to fall asleep. I can follow what the teacher says so I can learn. Maybe later I can teach others.” (6”)

NARRATION

A time of drought highlights the value of the feeding programme. Thirteen-year-old Claver Mutangana gets to eat at school. (8”)

#### MUTANGANA ON-CAMERA

MUTANGANA:

“At home there’s nothing to eat. But here I get food. When there’s nothing at home, I still feel full, thanks to what I had to eat at school.” (10”)

#### BASKETBALL GAME

NARRATION

Playtime comes after lunch. The World Food

Programme school feeding project in Rwanda keeps some children from starving. However, many others remain at the mercy of the on-going drought in Africa. (14")

UN LOGO

NARRATION

This report was prepared by the United Nations.