Enumerating Children Outside of Family Care and Measuring Separation in Emergencies

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Enumerating Children Outside of Family Care & Separation in Emergencies

Comprehensive data systems for children outside of family care can:

- **Measure and monitor trends of their numbers over time**

- **Spark and inform programmatic or policy responses**

Current Work

1. Enumerating children outside of family care
   - Supported by USAID's Center on Children in Adversity via JSI, in support of Objective 2 of the Action Plan on Children in Adversity
   - Methods to be piloted in Cambodia this year
   - Guidelines can be found at: www.cpcnetwork.org

2. **Measuring separation in emergencies**
   - Supported by OFDA through Save the Children on behalf of the Child Protection Working Group's Assessment and Measurement Taskforce
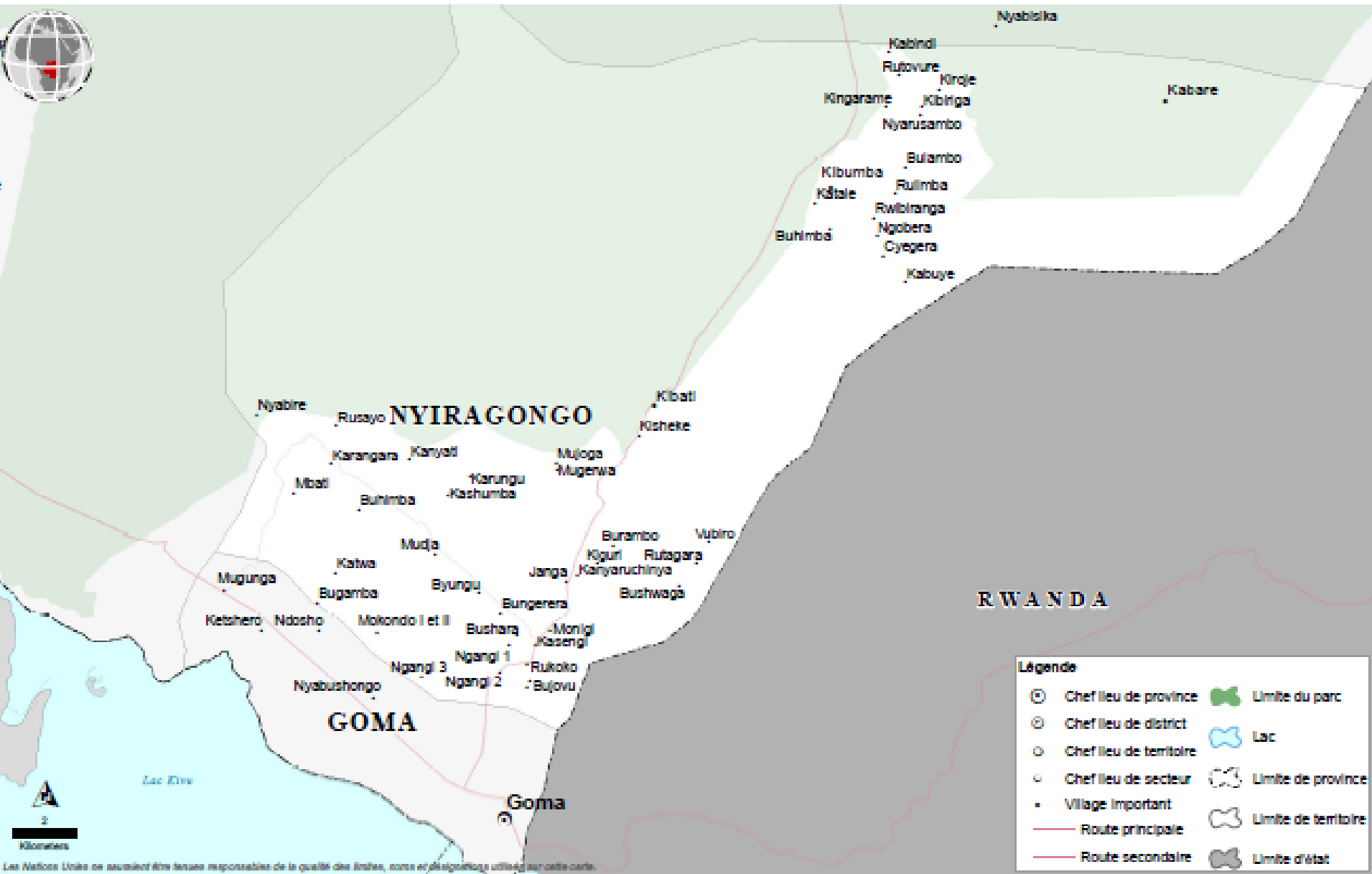   - Data from DRC under analysis (preliminary results)

Definitions

- ***Separated children*** are children who have been separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. These may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members.

- ***Unaccompanied children*** are children who have been separated from both parents and other relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.

Objectives:

To develop…

- ***A Population-Based Estimation Tool***: to provide a population-based estimation of the prevalence and basic characteristics of unaccompanied and separated children in a defined area, affected by the same emergency, at a given point in time.

- ***A Community-Based Surveillance Tool:*** to provide routine data on trends and basic characteristics of unaccompanied and separated children in defined areas over time.

Nyabisika

Kabindi

Rutovure

Kiroje

Kingarame · Kibiriga

Nyarusambo

Kabare

Bulambo

Kibumba

Rulimba

Kitale

Rwibiranga

Buhimba· Ngobera

Cyegera

Kabuye

Nyabire · Kibati

Rusayo **NYIRAGONGO**

Kishete

Karangara · Kanyati

Mujoga

Mbati · Mugenwa

Karungu

Buhimba · Kashumba

Burambo · Vubiro

Mudja

Kiguri · Rutagara

Katwa · Kanyaruchinya

Janga

Byungu · Bushwaga

Mugunga

Bungerera

Bugamba

R W A N D A

Ketshero · Ndosho

Mokondo I et II

Busharo · Monigi

Kasengi

Ngangi 1

Ngangi 3 · Rukoko

Nyabushongo

Ngangi 2 · Bujovu

GOMA

Lac Kivu

Goma

Légende

Symbole		
◎ Chef lieu de province	⭑	Limite du parc
◉ Chef lieu de district	⬭	Lac
○ Chef lieu de territoire	⬠	Limite de province
· Chef lieu de secteur	⬠	Limite de territoire
· Village important	⬠	Limite d'état
— Route principale		
— Route secondaire		

Les Nations Unies ne sauraient être tenues responsables de la qualité des limites, noms et désignations utilisés sur cette carte.

Quantitative Methods

- **Population-based network sampling**
  - **aims to provide a population-based estimation of the prevalence, number and basic characteristics of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in a defined area, affected by the same emergency, at any given point in time.**

- Community-based surveillance
  - continuous, on-going measurement of the prevalence, trends, and basic characteristics of unaccompanied and separated children in defined areas over time
  - could 'trigger' additional population-based estimations

Population-based network sampling
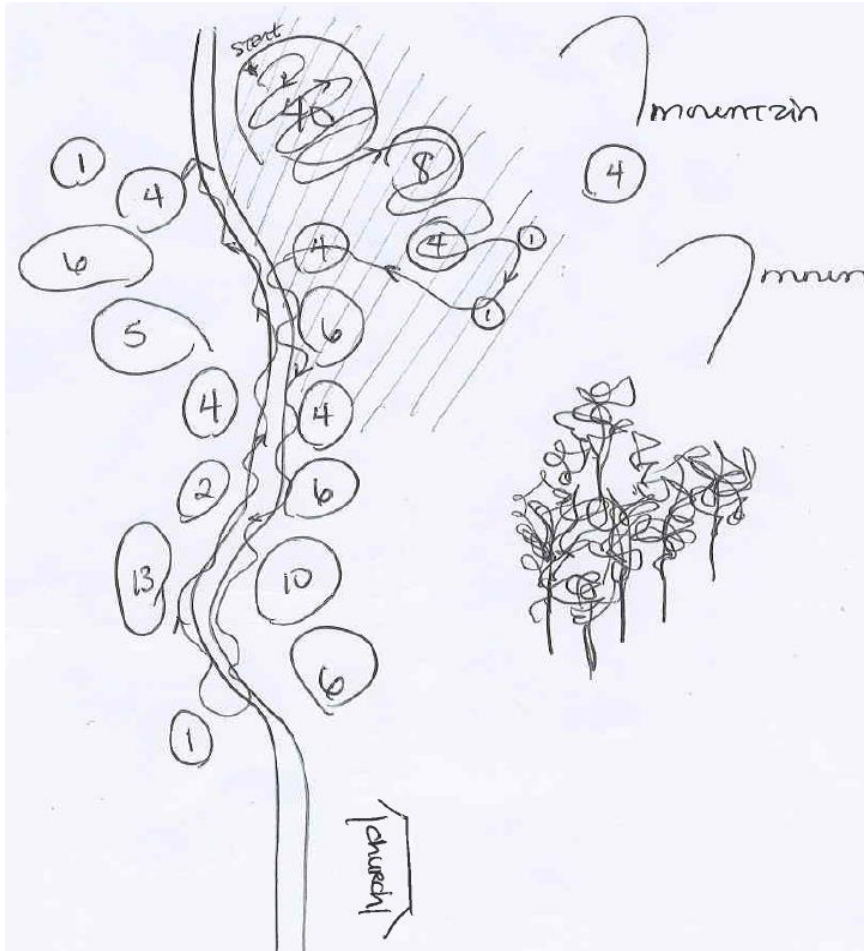
Cluster survey

- 14 data collectors
- 6 days of training
- 3 weeks data collection
- 20 sites (16 villages, 4 IDP camps)
- 25-28 interviews per site (HH, plus 2 neighbours)

Survey Tool

- ## HH composition *before* and *after* emergency
  - emergency = M23 take-over in Goma, December 2012 (limited 'acute' events in this setting)

- ## Identification of 'new arrivals' and 'departures'
  - age, sex, causes, care situation

Preliminary Results: Arrivals

	HH_1		HH_2 + HH_3	
	PP	95% CI	PP	95% CI
prevalence of separation	8.47%	(7.34-9.71)	4.69%	(4.00-5.46)
in non-camps	9.07%	(7.78-10.48)	4.14%	(3.42-4.95)
in camps	5.67%	(3.59-8.46)	7.25%	(5.30-9.64)
prevalence of unaccompaniment	1.87%	(1.34-2.52)	2.03%	(1.58-2.57)

Prevalence of separation = 8.47%
[95% CI: 7.34-9.71]

Preliminary Results: Departures

	HH_1		HH_2 + HH_3	
	PP	95% CI	PP	95% CI
prevalence of separation	5.46%	(4.51-6.54)	3.42%	(2.80-4.12)
in non-camps	3.86%	(2.98-4.91)	2.84%	(2.22-3.56)
in camps	12.03%	(9.00-15.63)	6.10%	(4.24-8.46)
prevalence of unaccompaniment	0.54%	(0.27-0.97)	0.20%	(0.07-0.43)

Prevalence of separation = 5.46%

[95% CI: 4.51-6.54]

Limitations

- Long recall period (20 months since Dec. 2012)
- Convenience sampling due to security concerns
- Systematic exclusion of child-headed households as primary respondents (HH1)
- Caretaker status for departures often unknown
- Technical experts required for implementation, 6-8 week timeframe from emergency onset likely unrealistic

Quantitative Methods

- Population-based network sampling
  - aims to provide a population-based estimation of the prevalence, number and basic characteristics of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in a defined area, affected by the same emergency, at any given point in time

- **Community-based surveillance**
  - **continuous, on-going measurement of the trends, and basic characteristics of unaccompanied and separated children in defined areas over time**
  - **could 'trigger' additional population-based estimations**

Community-based surveillance
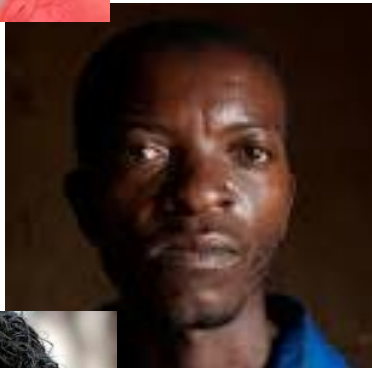
- 10 of 20 sites from the population-based network sampling (villages only)

- 31 Focal Points (≈ 3 Focal Points per site)

- 2 days training

- STC partner organisation PAMI = Focal Point support, follow-up and urgent action

Surveillance Protocol

- Report by SMS for each child identified: age, sex, separated/unaccompanied, arrival/departure, cause, current care situation

- Weekly reporting to central phone, even if no cases

- Verification visits and reporting

Preliminary Results

Total Number of UASC by Week
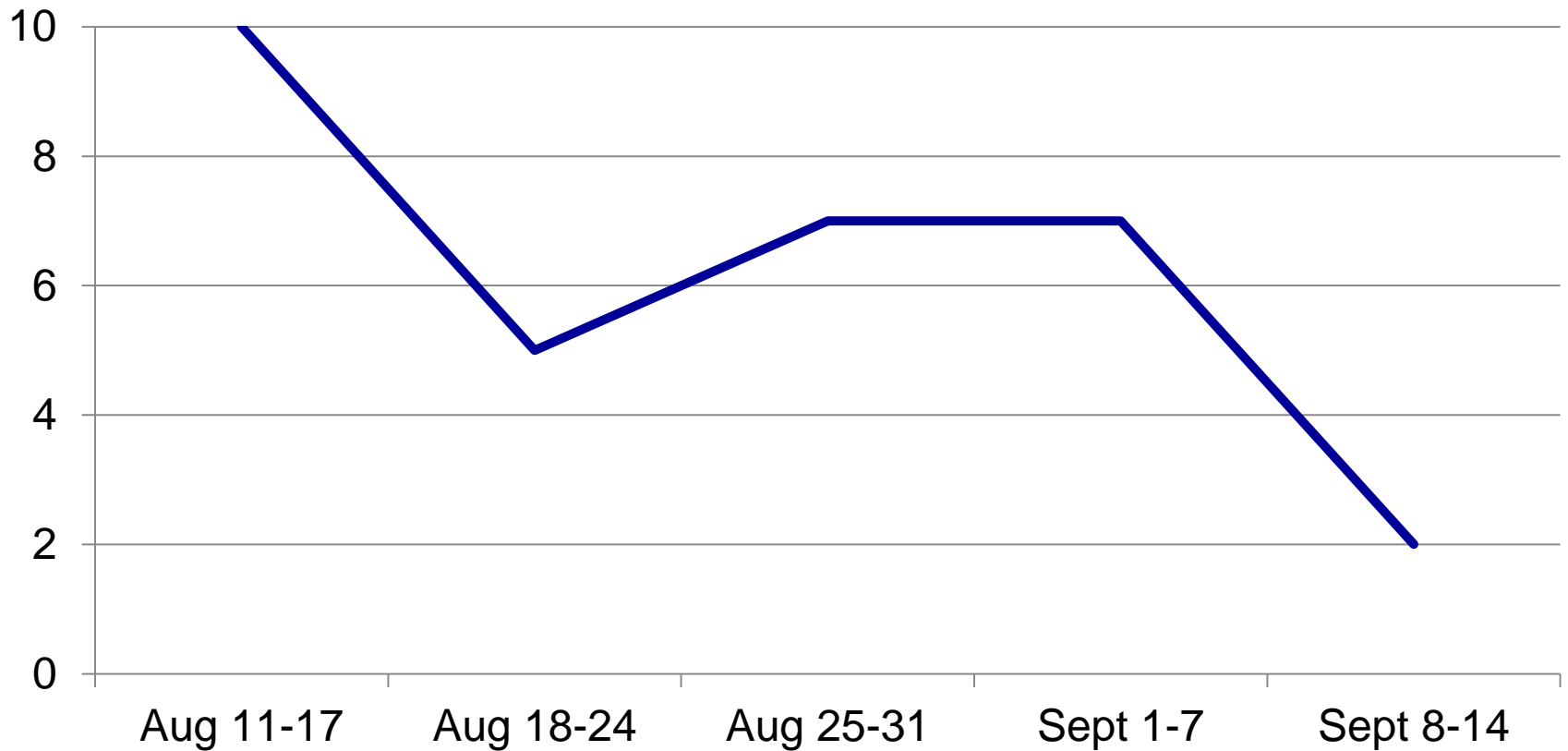
Preliminary Results

Number of UASC by Week,
Disaggregated by Sex
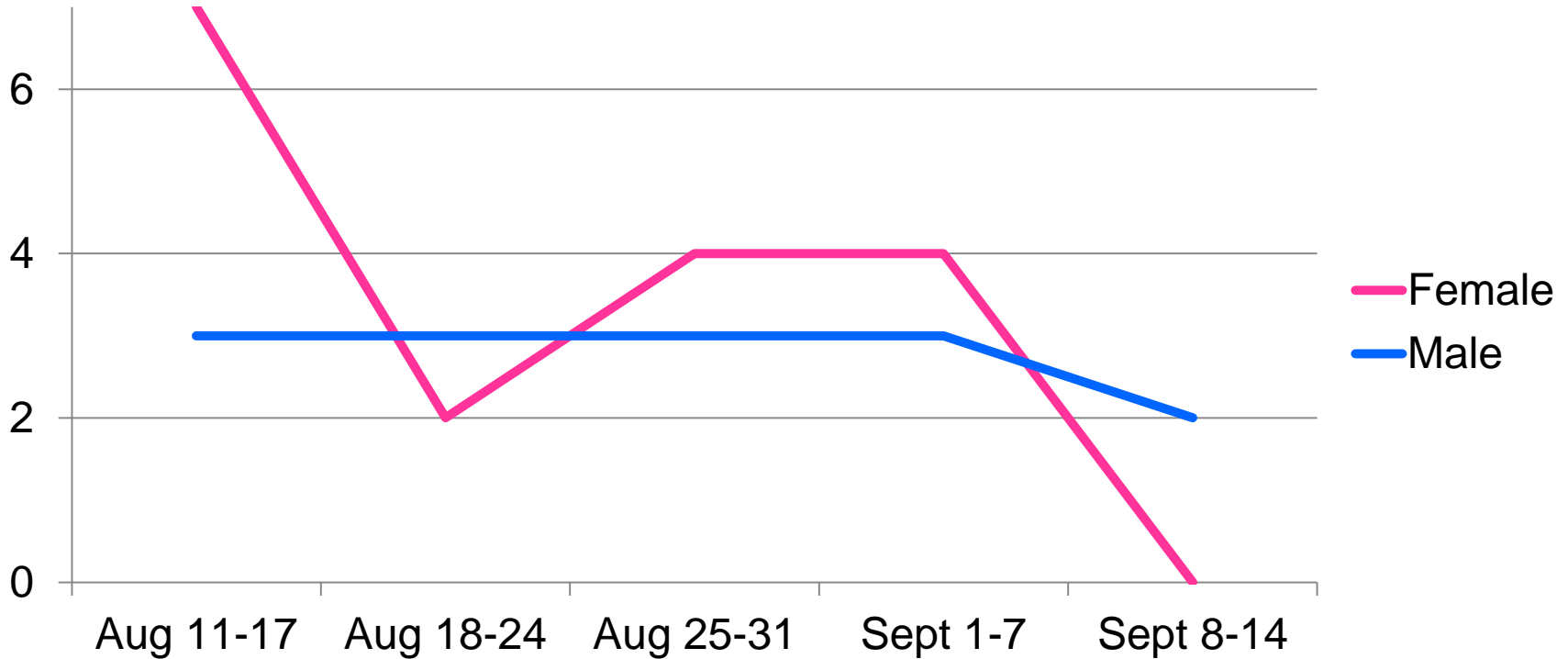
Preliminary Results

Number of UASC by Week,
Disaggregated by Age Group
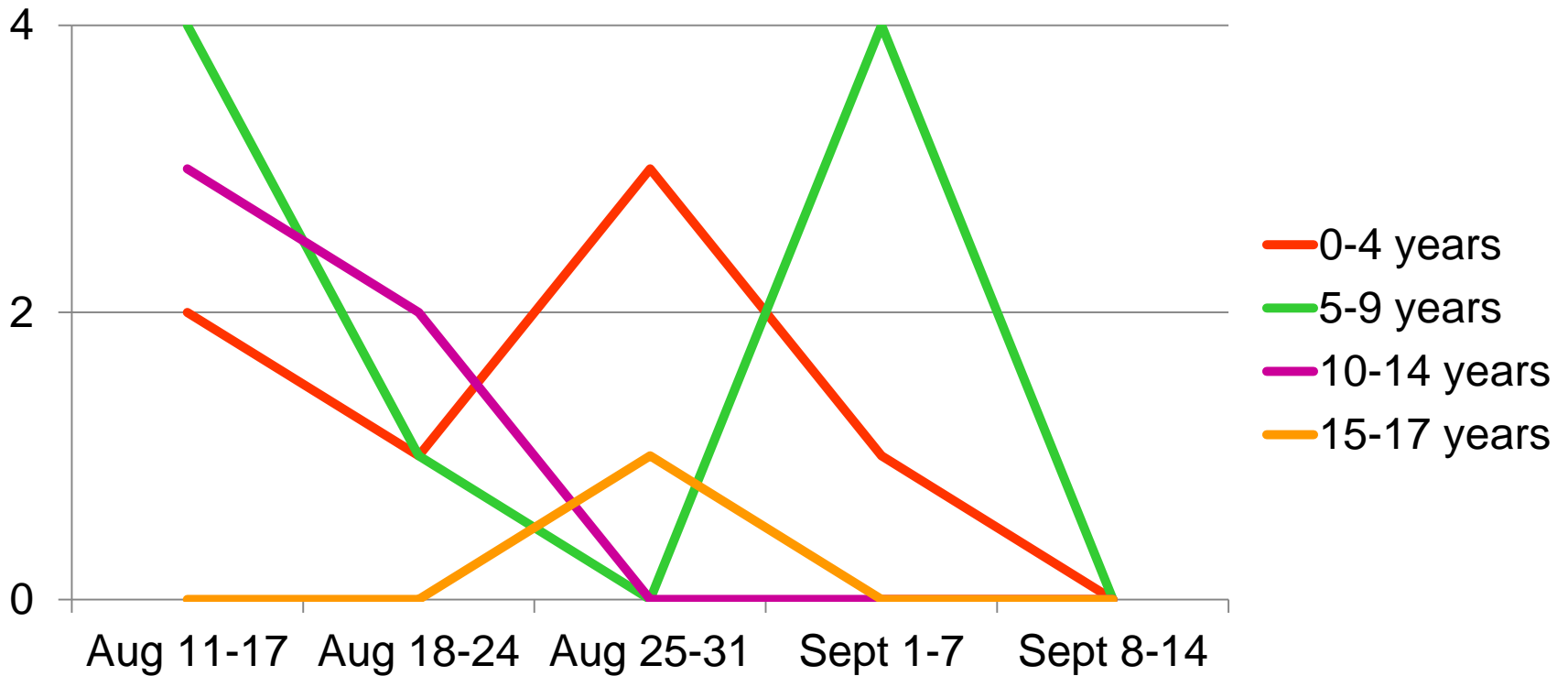
Limitations

- Results cannot be generalized or used for enumeration
- Data quality highly dependent on Focal Points
- Individual case follow-up not realistic in most settings (PAMI = an exception)
- Potential to report old cases, despite training
- Security concerns for Focal Points in contexts where separation may have a military or trafficking aspect

Next steps

- Finalize analysis for population-based network sampling
- Continue ongoing community-based surveillance
- Adapt methods and tools based on field-learning
- Report findings and identify opportunities for additional pilots

Thank you

SMS-based Community Surveillance Codebook

Step 1			Step 2			Step 3			Step 4			Step 5			Step 6	
Age	**Code**	,	**Sex**	**Code**	,	**Separated or Unaccompanied?**	**Code**	,	**Departed or Arriving Child?**	**Code**	,	**Reason for separation?**	**Code**	,	**He/she lives with whom?**	**Code**
Provide age	00-17	,	Female	20	,	Separated	30	,	Disappeared/departed from community	40	,	Attack/war/conflict	50	,	Parents	70
0-4	94		Male	21	,	Unaccompanied	31	,	New arrival in community	41	,	Death of parent/s/customary	51	,	Uncle/aunt/grandparents	71
5-9	95		Don't Know	28	,	Don't Know	38	,	Neither departure nor arrival (in same community)	42	,	Work	52	,	Brothers/Sisters > 17 years	72
10-14	96	,	No Response	29	,	No Response	39	,	Don't Know	48	,	School	53	,	Other family > 17 years	73
15-17	97	,										Poverty	54	,	Non-family other adults	74
Don't Know	98	,										Ran away	55	,	With other children	80
No Response	99											Illness	56	,	Spouse	81
												Insecurity	57	,	Institution/ group home	82
												Marriage	58	,	Alone	83
												Lost during movement	59	,	Other	84
												Guardian disappearance	60	,	Don't Know	88
												Child disappearance	61	,	No Response	89
												Recruitment	62	,		
												Trafficking/kidnapping	63	,		
												Other	64	,		
												Don't Know	68	,		
												No Response	69	,		

* If no cases occurred during the week, send a message with 0000 indicating you have nothing to report,.
* If you need someone to call you, send a message with 9999.

* You must send at least one text message per week by Friday of each week at 0971823819.
* For each child, provide a code for all six steps, even if you do not know the answer for each step.
* Each step must be separated by a comma.

* If there are multiple responses within the same step, place the 2+ responses within parantheses, separated by a comma: 05, 20, 30, (41, 42), 60