



Guinea Country Office Humanitarian Situation Report No. 2



Reporting Period: 1 January to 31 December 2022

Highlights

- 2,551,234 children were vaccinated against measles in 22 health districts affected by measles outbreak.
- 32,716 children (15,686 girls) aged 6 to 59 months with severe wasting, including 4,677 children with medical complications, were hospitalized and treated nationwide, in 438 health centres, with the support of UNICEF and its partners.
- 2 positive cases of Lassa fever were reported in the prefecture of Gueckedou (Nzerekore region), with 285 contacts traced and monitored, but no death recorded.
- 5,000 people benefited from enhanced infection prevention and control interventions in 10 health facilities in the prefecture of Gueckedou (Nzerekore region), during the response to Lassa fever.
- 390 children (183 girls) in direct and indirect contact with COVID-19 cases, received psychosocial support from social workers trained with UNICEF support during the Lassa fever response.
- 18,000 children benefitted from 6,000 table benches, both to reduce the spread of diseases by increasing distance among students, and to create optimal conditions for learning.
- UNICEF and Education global cluster joined forces to train 73 actors from Ministry of Education and CSO, enabling them to assess and manage crises locally.

Situation in Numbers

6,7 M
children in need of humanitarian assistance

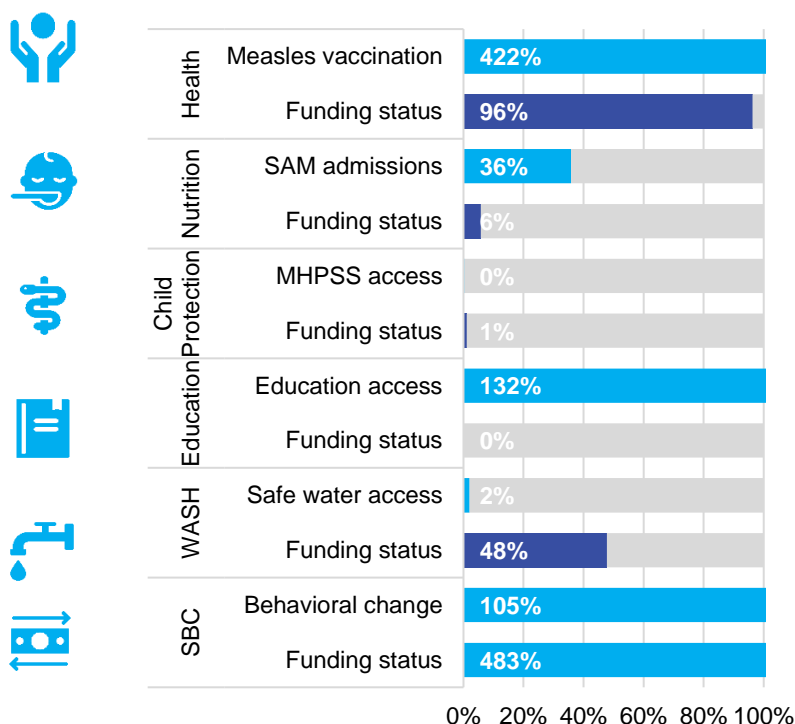
8,7 M
people in need

38,225 COVID-19 Cases

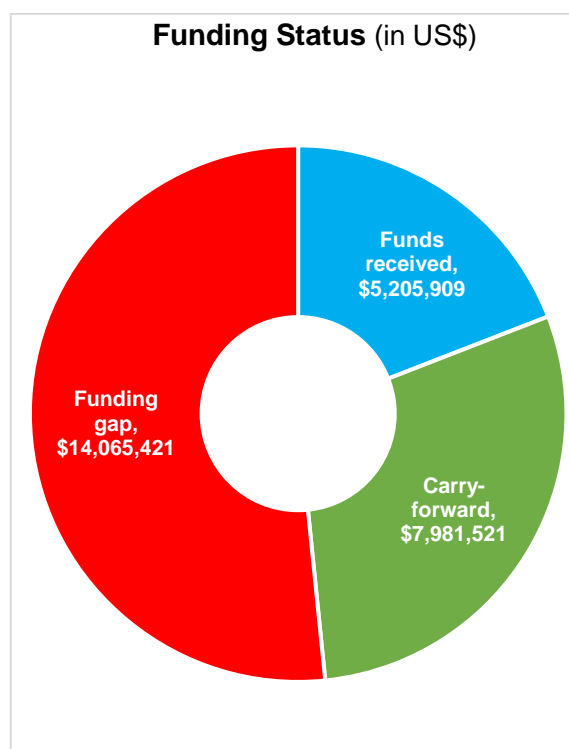
467 COVID-19 Deaths

**Guinea Appeal 2022
HAC
US\$27,3 million**

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Guinea Appeal 2022



*Funding available includes funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

In line with the 2022 UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal, the total amount of funding received at the end of December 2022 was US\$13,187,430 million, representing 48 per cent of the US\$27.3 million to respond to the humanitarian needs of children in Guinée. However, US\$7,981,521 USD of this total amount were carried over from 2021. UNICEF Guinea would like to recognize the generous support of key partners, including Japan, Norway, USA Natcom, Canadian Natcom, USAID, World Bank, and Gavi. UNICEF also recognizes the flexible funding received in 2022 from the Global Humanitarian Thematic Fund.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Guinea's socio-political context seems to have improved since the signature of the agreement between the junta and ECOWAS on 21 October 2022, on the duration of the transition now planned for 24 months, and with a consolidated ten-point timetable. However, socio-political actors are still buying into the inclusive dialogue proposed by the new government.

Guinea is regularly confronted with multiple and simultaneous epidemics (yellow fever, measles and vaccine-derived poliomyelitis), leading to an increase in the mortality and morbidity rate for children and women, with consequences on the health system performance, the social, community and economic organization of the country.

Although the country adhered to international frameworks and strategies such as the International Health Regulations, the fight against epidemics remains a major challenge for multiple reasons: a weak health system, insufficient intersectoral coordination and collaboration between partners, and insufficient resource mobilization.

The country organized a forum on multiple and simultaneous epidemics in Guinea in 2022, attended by participants from 7 countries in the region, to find innovative approaches that integrate better the key pillars and components of the public health response, in a context of limited resources.

The prefecture of Gueckedou, Nzerekore region, faced an epidemic of Lassa fever, officially declared by the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene on April 20, 2022. Two positive cases and 285 contacts were reported with, but no reported death.

The health conditions for the most vulnerable populations deteriorated with the COVID-19 pandemic, with community transmission continuing to date. As of December 31, 2022, the country recorded a total of 38,225 positive cases, with 37,301 cured and 467 hospital deaths. Even as the COVID-19 crisis is over, it is likely that it will have a lasting socio-economic impact on local populations, especially on children and women who are the most vulnerable.

The Guinean government, through the Ministries of Health and Public Hygiene and the Ministry of Education and partners, intensified COVID-19 vaccination, with expansion to children aged 12 to 17 years starting on January 10, 2022. As of December 31, 2022, 819,946 children (46.2 per cent) received the first dose, and 174,199 children (9.9 per cent) were fully vaccinated.

Following the urgent needs assessment conducted in the most at-risk areas, school managers were encouraged to collaborate with students' parents and interested stakeholders to: i. re-equip some schools with new or repaired handwashing kits, ii. renew more regularly the stock of soap and water, iii. provide 6,000 table benches, both to reduce the spread of diseases by increasing distance among students, and to create optimal conditions for learning.

In Guinea, malnutrition is a public health problem and a vector of fragility for children. Chronic malnutrition affects 26 per cent of children 6–59-month-old. Coverage of nutrition interventions (curative, preventive and promotional) remains low. Less than 36 per cent of affected and targeted children are cared for and only 10 per cent of children under 5 years of age benefit from the necessary preventive and promotional interventions.

Floods remain one of the most recurrent and pressing risks threatening agricultural production in Guinea. They are often caused by torrential and intermittent rains, particularly in Upper Guinea. An estimated 70,000 people affected by the floods, or 10,000 affected households, were in need of humanitarian assistance in the last 5 years.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

In 2022, Guinea faced an outbreak of measles in 22 out of the country's 38 districts. The national campaign targeting children aged from 6-59 months was organized from 19th to 24th May 2022 and 2,551,234 children were immunized with 100 per cent of coverage rate. 16,214 health workers and community relays were trained on infection prevention and control and received protection kits (masks, gloves, hydroalcoholic gel) to ensure the quality of supplementary activities of immunization and the continuity of the health services. No polio campaign was conducted in 2022 because of the current epidemiological situation in Guinea. The emphasis was placed on the intensification of the routine immunization and COVID-19 vaccination.



Nutrition



In 2022, 32,716 children (15,686 girls) aged 6-59 months with severe wasting (SAM), including 4,677 children with medical complications, were admitted, and treated in 438 health centers nationwide, with support from UNICEF and its partners. 36 per cent of the 91,200 targeted severe wasting children (HAC 2022) were covered. The SAM cure rate was 91.7 per cent, the death rate 1.9 per cent, the failure rate 4.8 per cent, and the nonresponse rate 1.6 per cent, which are all above the SPHERE minimum standards.

242,201 mothers and caregivers were sensitized on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) at community level. More than 2,449,112 children aged 6-59 months were twice supplemented with vitamin A (96 per cent) and 2,039,940

children aged 12-59 months were de-wormed (96.1 per cent).

In partnership with the World Bank, HKI and WFP, UNICEF supported a SMART national nutrition survey which revealed that the prevalence of stunting has declined slightly from 30 per cent (2018) to 26 per cent (2022), and that of wasting from 9 per cent to 7 per cent over the same period.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA



The protection's response to the epidemic of Lassa Haemorrhagic Fever Virus was instrumental in:

- Identifying 254 direct contacts (50 women and 90 children, including 45 girls) from 95 households. Of these contacts, only 2 (1 woman and 1 man) developed the diseases, but subsequently recovered. They benefited from psychosocial support and were provided with clothing, food and financial support.

- 76 home visits were carried out by social workers to ensure follow up and moral support for children affected by Lassa. A total of 336 children (direct and indirect contacts), including 159 girls, received psychosocial support from

social workers trained for this purpose.

- 373 people, including 184 women were sensitized to avoid stigma to people affected by Lassa and to reinforce preventive measures to the disease.
- Within the administrative region of Nzerekore, social workers raised awareness among 153 people, including 36 women and 65 children (30 girls), on the existing safe and accessible complaint mechanisms to report sexual exploitation and abuse.
- 33 women and 68 children (23 girls) benefited from services to combat gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, including psychosocial support.
- 5 child protection structures were refurbished and will benefit from financial support for the implementation of activities contained in their action plan.
- 106 UNICEF Guinea staff and 80 partners were trained on PSEA, and 500 "No excuse for PSEA" cards and 500 posters containing the six main messages on PSEA were distributed. A PSEA evaluation of UNICEF's active partners (CSOs) was also conducted. This assessment revealed that all 10 civil society organizations involved had a "Low" level risk. 339 actors and partners benefited from comprehensive training on PSEA, as well as on case reporting mechanisms.

Education



Throughout the school year, a health security mechanism was maintained in schools as a preventive response to the resurgence of COVID-19 variants.

It consisted of regular awareness raising sessions for students and their teachers on the use of hand washing kits and early detection and reporting of disease symptoms.

6,000 table benches were provided to schools identified as the most in need.

Building on good practices and lessons learned, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education (MoE) in preparing for the implementation of distance learning approaches and setting up digital platforms with a focus on the roll-out of the learning passport. Thus, in the event of a sudden closure of schools, a greater number of students will be able to continue their learning remotely, unlike what happened in 2020.

The identification and capacity building of new members of the "Education in Emergencies working groups" was seen as a priority to ensure that the MoE has a critical mass of actors able to assess and manage crises locally. As a first step, consultations with the decentralized education services were conducted by the MoE to identify local and national managers who met the criteria of competence and effectiveness to be part of these working groups. Then, at the request of the MoE, UNICEF joined forces with the Education global cluster to support the capacity building of the said critical mass of national and local actors.

All actors have been increasingly calling on the Ministry of Education to get more involved in preventing and responding to educational crises, including through the allocation of adequate resources.

WASH



As part of UNICEF's response to Lassa fever, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and WASH interventions were enhanced in 10 health care facilities in the prefecture of Guéckédou (Nzerekore region), benefitting over 10,000 people.

Hygiene kits were distributed to 350 people in 2 affected communities (Sidakoro and Koumassan) and 2 schools, benefitting 208 children including 91 girls.

Water services were improved in 2 health care facilities (the laboratory and the care center for epidemics in Gueckedou) through the rehabilitation of 2 solar powered water

systems, benefitting around 3,000 people.

As for sanitation, 12,674 school children benefitted from improved sanitation through the construction/rehabilitation of sanitation facilities in 12 schools.

Furthermore, as part of the response to COVID-19, hygiene kits were distributed in 70 health care facilities in Labe (20), Nzerekore (20), Yomou (15) and Gueckedou (15), benefiting around 70,000 people. A total of 140 staff of these facilities were trained in IPC protocols.

As a co-lead of IPC/WASH pillar, UNICEF supported the coordination in the response to Lassa fever epidemic in the region of Nzerekore.

Social Behavioural Change (SBC), Accountability to Affected Population, Localization



The year 2022 was marked again by repeated epidemic crises, particularly Lassa fever, in a context where COVID 19 has been raging since 2020. Thus, the interventions of the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (CREC) were essentially devoted to preparedness and response to these two epidemics.

A total of 4,816 social mobilizers, journalists, adolescents, and youth (1,927 women) were trained and conducted various community mobilization and engagement interventions in response to epidemics. Also, 1,839 religious and community leaders, including 780 women, conducted community dialogue sessions and to gain the support and

participation of the population in the fight against diseases with epidemic potentials.

In terms of results (i) 4,412,283 people received positive messages for the adoption of best practices against COVID-19 and Lassa Fever, (ii) complete vaccination coverage against COVID-19 increased from 7.2 per cent in December 2021 to 27.9 per cent in December 2022, and (iii) the spread of Lassa Fever in the affected areas was stopped in less than 4 months.

UNICEF supported the conduct of two socio-anthropological studies that provided a better understanding of community rumors and feedback on epidemics. Data from these studies were very useful for the effective planning and implementation of the response.

The participatory and inclusive approach supported by UNICEF in epidemic preparedness and response, and the generation of socio-anthropological evidence critical to the mobilization of local actors and to the buy in of communities.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF Guinea supported the coordination of the mechanism for responding to epidemics (COVID19, Lassa fever) set up at both regional and national levels. UNICEF's participation was effective within the crisis committees and the sectoral commissions. Under the National Health Safety Agency (ANSS) leadership, UNICEF co-led the RCCE, IPC/WASH, the Psychosocial Support, and the PSEA pillars of the Lassa fever response. UNICEF is also involved in the health in emergency sector led by the World Health Organization (WHO).

UNICEF is also a member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (COPIA), the coordination platform of all humanitarian actors operating in Guinea.

To strengthen localization, UNICEF developed strategic and operational partnerships with local civil society organizations. This main objective of these partnerships is to support social mobilization and community engagement to promote immunization uptake, infection prevention and control, and to provide psychosocial support to infected and affected people.

UNICEF will continue to support community-based interventions in Guinea, including in areas where basic government social services are severely limited.

UNICEF-supported interventions aim to strengthen the bridges between humanitarian action, development programmes, and peace building, while prioritizing community-based approaches.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

In 2022, 34 media articles and human-interest stories were published on the [UNICEF Guinea website](#). 57 videos were produced and broadcast, and 14 press releases published. 46 photos albums were produced and published on the UNICEF Guinea Flickr image bank. 541 publications were disseminated via the UNICEF Guinea social platforms [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) (160,400 followers).

UNICEF's work in Guinea was promoted via the national press: 113 press articles and 12 web banners were published in the Guinean online press via [GuinéeNews.org](#) (1027 K followers), [AfricaGuinée.org](#) (271.4 K followers), [Ledjely.org](#) (164 K followers), [MosaiqueGuinée.org](#) (105.9 K followers). 67 TV reports were broadcast on Guinean TV channels RTG/EVASION/ESPACE.

Next SitRep: 3 July 2023

Who to contact for further information:

Felix Acebo

Representative

UNICEF Guinea

+224 611111159

fackebo@unicef.org

Pacifique Ngarambe Ruty

Acting Deputy Representative

UNICEF Guinea

+224 628687809

pruty@unicef.org

Moise Tounkara

Emergency Specialist

UNICEF Guinea

+224 622 350 218

motounkara@unicef.org

Summary of Programme Results

UNICEF and IPs Response

Sector	Total needs	2021 target	Total results	Change* ▲ ▼
Indicators				
Health				
Children aged 0 to 59 months vaccinated against Polio	2,222,651	2,222,651	0	
Children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles	604,404	604,404	2,551,234	▲
Health care facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control	19,750	19,750	16,214	▲
Nutrition				
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months receiving multiple micronutrient powders	1,121,606	1,121,606	0	
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	91,200	91,200	32,716	▲
			17,030 boys	
			15,686 girls	
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA				
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	316,000	316,000	6,764	▲
			3,194 women, 283 men, 1,214 boys and 2,073 girls	
People who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers	1,200,000	1,200,000	15,442	▲
			2,466 men, 3,973 women, 6,805 girls and 2,198 boys	
Children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	120,000	120,000	390 (183 girls and 207 boys)	▲
Education				
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	2,189,412	2,189,412	2,895,830	▲
Children receiving individual learning materials	153,258	153,258	0	
Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	8,905	8,905	14,501	▲
WASH				
Children use safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	60,000	60,000	12,674	▲
People accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs	150,000	150,000	3,000	▲
People reached with critical WASH supplies	285,000	285,000	80,350	▲
Social Protection				
Households reached with UNICEF funded multi-purpose humanitarian cash transfers	10,000	10,000	0	
SBC, Community engagement and AAP				
People engaged in risk communication and community engagement actions	500,000	500,000	526,672	▲
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	2,500,000	2,500,000	4,412,283	▲

Annex B

Funding Status*

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Resources available from 2021 (Carry-over)	\$	%
Health	7,688,039	1,743,754	5,663,287	280,998	4%
Nutrition	4,765,748	207,720	66,500	4,491,528	94%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	4,548,000	0	51,000	4,497,000	99%
Education	6,529,064	0	0	6,529,064	100%
WASH	1,185,000	482,560	83,000	619,440	52%
Social Protection	1,537,000	0	60,000	1,477,000	96%
Cross Sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	1,000,000	2,771,875	2,057,734	-3,829,609	-383%
Total	27,252,851	5,205,909	7,981,521	14,065,421	52%