



Hassanata Bamba, a 24 year-old-animator for community nutrition, in the village of Tiemekosso, in the northwest of Cote d'Ivoire.

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for every child

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 2

Reporting Period
1 January to 31
December 2023

West and Central Africa Region

HIGHLIGHTS

- Armed conflict and inter-communal clashes escalated dramatically in the eastern DRC, especially in the Kivus and Ituri, displacing of more than 1.1 million people.
- Conflict in Sudan in April 2023 caused refugees to flee into neighboring Chad (5000,000) and the Central African Republic (20,000).
- New military operations and armed group activities in Mali following the departure of UN peacekeeping mission MINUSMA displaced people internally and into neighbouring countries including Mauritania.
- Military coups in Niger (July) and Gabon (August), along with increased political instability across several countries disrupted children’s access to essential services.
- In addition to a Marburg outbreak in Equatorial Guinea and polio in the Republic of Congo, further outbreaks of dengue fever (Cabo Verde), diphtheria (Nigeria, Niger and Guinea) and cholera (DRC) placed strains on health services.
- Guinea and the Gambia experienced severe flooding in early 2023, and the Republic of Congo saw floods in December, displacing 320,000 people¹.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS



7,000,000
Children in need of humanitarian assistance

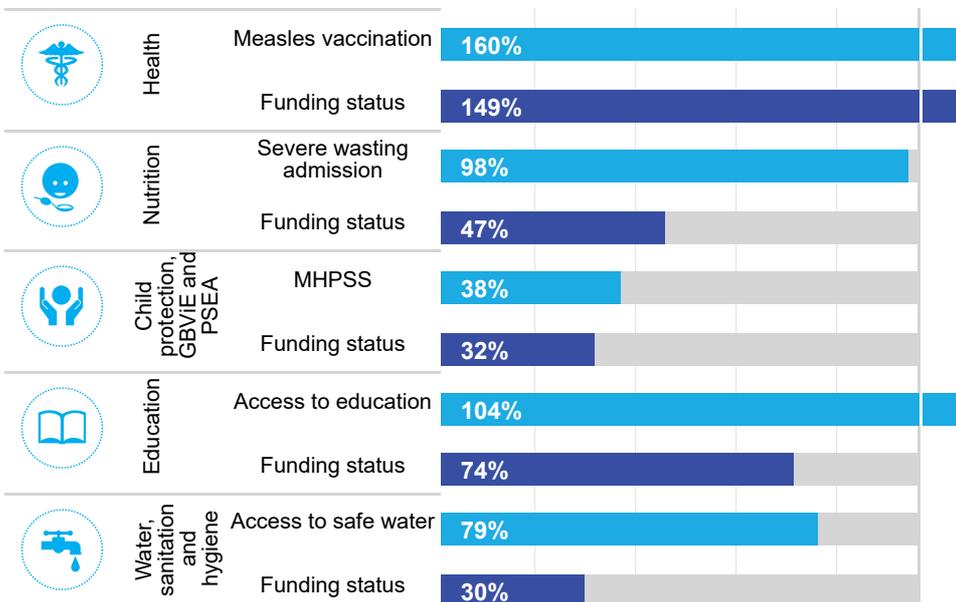


16,000,000
People in need of humanitarian assistance

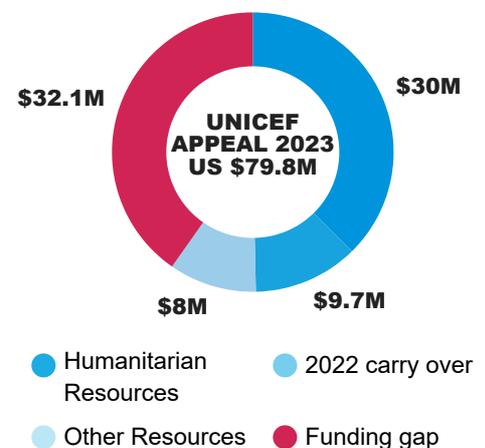


128,536
Persons displaced^{2,3}

UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*



FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



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

* UNICEF response % is only for the indicator, the funding status is for the entire sector.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Children and their families in West and Central Africa faced humanitarian crises throughout 2023. From the recurring and expanding threat of climate-related disasters, to armed conflict, political upheaval and public health emergencies, children continue to face hazards that place them in need of support beyond the capability of national response systems. The present report focuses on UNICEF's Regional Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal in 2023, covering 11 countries (Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo). Nine countries in the region hosting large-scale humanitarian emergencies have published stand-alone reports

Multi-country humanitarian crises were a critical challenge in 2023. In addition to the spillover from the Sahel Crisis that has been impacting Benin, Togo, Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, the outbreak of conflict in Sudan led hundreds of thousands of refugees⁴ to flee into neighbouring Chad (496,834) and the Central African Republic (21,135), countries that are already responding to high levels of humanitarian needs. UNICEF expanded operations in eastern Chad in response, activating an L2 scale-up and deploying resources to Farchana and Abeche to meet the needs of the arriving refugees. In addition to conflicts, the outbreak of Marburg Virus in Equatorial Guinea in early 2023 led to multi-country public health emergency coordination and preparedness measures in Gabon and Cameroon to prevent the spread of the disease.

Whilst West and Central Africa has witnessed numerous coup d'état in recent years, political instability was particularly high in 2023. The fallout from the July 2023 coup in Niger led to the imposition of sanctions, and obstacles to ways of working that impacted supply chains beyond Niger. This was followed by a coup in Gabon in August 2023 and political instability in several other countries including Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone later in the year. In Mali, the announcement in July 2023 of the expulsion of MINUSMA created a volatile operating environment and the subsequent military operations have seen displacements into Mauritania and other neighbouring countries. The UNICEF West and Central Africa Regional Office has supported initiatives across the region to analyse and prepare for political risk and ensure operational continuity should obstacles materialize.

Country Offices in West and Central Africa continued to focus on strengthening risk analysis and preparedness capacity in 2023. Countries such as Cabo Verde issued alerts and preparedness measures as a result of seismic activity, and risk analysis in Guinea enabled UNICEF to prepare and respond to a fuel explosion in Conakry late in the year. Following large political protests in Senegal in 2023 that saw the closure of some schools and protection risks for children, UNICEF focused on contingency planning and preparedness measures to ensure readiness ahead of presidential elections in 2024.

BENIN

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The spillover crisis from central Sahel countries has become a threat to communities in the northern departments in Benin. Between January 2021 and December 2023, more than 155 security incidents were reported in the departments of Atacora and Alibori, with a steady increase of attacks and violence against civilians using improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Growing insecurity is generating a negative impact on children's and their families' well-being and development. The increasing number of internally displaced persons and refugees is putting pressure on dwindling resources and basic services. Furthermore, school closures (10 at the beginning of new school year 2023-2024) due to insecurity and other life-threatening events put children at risk.

After the military coup in Niger in July 2023, the closure of the borders between Benin and Niger disrupted the passage of sea cargo and supplies through the Benin corridor to Niger and to eastern Mali (Gao) and the wider region.

In Benin in 2023, 1,791,893 children are at risk in areas affected by the Sahel crisis/security challenge, epidemics and flooding. 23,533 displaced people⁵ (13,499 refugees from Burkina Faso and 10,034 internally displaced) including 14,000 children have been registered in Alibori and Atacora.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

During 2023, UNICEF increased critical medical supplies and equipment to health facilities in the north and prepositioning of essential items to offer care for internally displaced persons, refugees and local populations. This enabled 12,356 people (7,361 women and 4,995 children) to access primary health care (PHC) and 2,805 children (1,431 girls) aged 6 to 23 months to be vaccinated against measles and rubella in Matéri and Tanguiéta municipalities in Atacora and Kandi municipality in Alibori. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) in updating the contingency plan in certain localities in the north of the country and at the central level, and to activate coordination mechanisms for the health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sectors.

The implementation of the national community health policy in the health zones (HZ) of the northern regions increased access to PHC by reducing the number of health centres offering minimum services from 13 to 12 by the end of December 2023, 10 of which were in Atacora, and reopening all those that were closed.

NUTRITION

UNICEF, in close collaboration with the MoH and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), supported the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), particularly in regions affected by insecurity. In 2023, throughout the country 22,852 children, including 11,197 girls, aged between 6 and 59 months suffering from SAM, were screened and treated in UNICEF-supported nutritional care units. 13,499 (6,796 boys

and 6,703 girls) among them were from Atacora, Alibori, Borgou and Donga. With a forecast national caseload of 7,463 SAM children, the 22,852 SAM children treated represent an achievement of more than 300 per cent of the target in the year 2023.

CHILD PROTECTION

In 2023, 35,708 persons including 30,069 children, of whom 13,905 were girls, and 5,639 caregivers and parents, received mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). Consultations in child-friendly spaces (CFS) helped children and parents/caregivers to develop stress coping mechanisms and resilience and improve communication with their families. 1,779 additional refugee/IDP households (6,105 children) received a kit of essential household items, bringing the total to 2,111 assisted refugee/IDP households out of the 2,185 registered since 2022. 1,089 unaccompanied/separated children have benefited from alternative care by host families or extended families within communities, with the support of UNICEF-Benin.

723,005 women, girls and boys including 411,304 women leaders and parents, accessed gender-based violence (GBV) risk mitigation and prevention, as well as response services.

UNICEF has engaged in a dialogue with the government on the increased risks to child protection in the departments affected by the security crisis, resulting in a draft protocol for the transfer of children affected by the security crisis to civil authorities that is awaiting adoption, and a national mine action programme whose implementation began at the end of December 2023. Workshops held for the participatory design of educational tools and messages on mine risks and explosive devices in the two affected departments made it possible to have the materials which will be used to launch a radio and local communication campaign, to be launched under the leadership of the government during the first quarter of 2024.

EDUCATION

UNICEF worked to improve children's learning environment in the schools receiving growing numbers of internally displaced and refugee children along Benin's northern borders. Its partner awareness-raising sessions among displaced and resident families enabled 2,890 conflict-affected children (827 girls) to access formal education in 150 schools in the Banikoara, Karimama, Kérou, Tanguiéta and Matéri municipalities.

93 officials from the Ministry of Education, the Agence Nationale de Protection Civile (ANPC), and technical and financial partners and civil society agents acquired further knowledge on education in emergencies (EiE) and psychosocial support (PSS). They, in turn, trained 738 school principals and teachers from Atacora and Alibori. 38 Child friendly Spaces (CFS) were created to support nearly 10,000 school-age children affected by displacement, whose formal education in the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years was disrupted. More than 144,805 children (of whom 64,743 girls) in Alibori and Atacora received PSS through regular classroom play activities according to the "Safe school" approach.

WASH

In 2023, 554,606 people (293,941 females) from all the departments in Benin, including internally displaced persons and refugees in Kérou, Matéri and Tanguiéta municipalities in Atacora, and in Kandi in Alibori, received critical WASH supplies, including 500 extra hygiene/dignity kits, water purification tablets and water tanks, Tippy Tap hand-washing devices and 9,114 other hand-washing facilities.

Within the 'WASH in schools' initiative, UNICEF through implementation partners rehabilitated and built latrine modules in 46 schools in Banikoara and Kandi (Alibori), and 59,236 students (27,508 girls) accessed WASH facilities and safe hygiene services. UNICEF also rehabilitated water supply systems enabling 8,720 persons, including 2,760 children and 4,534 women and girls in Atacora, to move from access to water with a limited supply service to a basic, safe, and available water service. However, this achievement represents only 17 per cent of the annual target of 50,000 people. Additional support and funding are needed to reach the planned target.

NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

From January to October 2023, 10,718 conflict-affected people, including refugees and internally displaced persons (6,245 children including 2,692 girls and 1,036 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)) in 2,370 households benefited from non-food items (NFI) kits⁶

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

UNICEF's support helped the government to reach 175,331 community actors (91,660 female) through community discussions. 100 community leaders in at least 291 villages in Banikoara, Matéri, Kérou and Tanguiéta sensitized 2,227 displaced persons, 1,332 refugees and 3,157 people from host communities, on topics such as social cohesion, promotion or maintenance of individual and collective values for health, communities' protection and well-being. Their discussions also provided useful information and advice on the use of functional basic social services and dignity kits, and the enrolment of refugee and displaced children in host community schools and CFS.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

24 programme and operations officers from the UNICEF Benin and Togo country offices, trained in Grand-Popo, Benin, from 30 October to 3 November 2023, by two international experts from UNICEF Headquarters, acquired skills and knowledge to ensure the systematic consideration of humanitarian cash transfers (HCT) as a programmatic tool. A 24-hour simulation exercise helped the participants to assimilate and develop these skills.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

Child-Friendly Space: A Safe Place To Provide Psychosocial Support For Children

By Reine David-Gnahoui, UNICEF Benin

In Benin, with the escalation of the insecurity situation in the northern part of the country, the need to provide a suitable environment for children to receive a quality education, and to keep them entertained in their free time, has become a major concern.

In the department of Atocora, more precisely in the town of Tanguiéta, more than 900 displaced persons, including children out of school, have been registered. The number is constantly rising in a situation where children and young people are the first victims, due to their vulnerability.

UNICEF Benin, through the Global Humanitarian Fund, provided technical and financial support to the Departmental Direction of Social Affairs, reinforcing the skills of their staff. Also, the community has been involved in the process of recruiting volunteer animators for the Espaces Amis des Enfants (Child-Friendly Spaces) and as a result ten actors were trained in Tanguiéta. In addition, the Social Promotion Center provided emergency educational materials, in particular Early Child Development kits and recreational kits, to improve the child-friendly spaces.



The children enjoy themselves under the supervision of the animator

When we visit, the playground of the Ecole Primaire Publique PORKA in Tanguiéta town centre is bustling with activities. A hundred or so children from the nearby area gathered to enjoy themselves and participate in a variety of games and recreational activities, under the watchful eye of community-identified activity leaders.

Nama Donatienne, a dedicated activity leader at Espace Amis des Enfants and mother of a one-month-old baby, says with a smile: "Since I was identified a year ago, I've never missed any of the activities here. I think this center is very important for the children's lives, especially those of refugees. What's interesting is that, with children, there are no differences. They fit in easily and communicate with each other. It's also motivating for us to see that the children have no differences with each other, and often we join them for playtime."

CONGO

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

In 2023, the country experienced major floods due to a recurrent rise in water levels in the Congo and Oubangui river corridors as a result of the heavy rains recorded in the second half of 2023. Floods have particularly affected certain villages in regions of Cuvette, Likouala and Plateaux, causing damage to basic social infrastructure, disruption to public services, devastation of plantations, contamination of drinking water, displacement of the population, particularly the most vulnerable, and an upsurge in gender-based violence. According to rapid needs assessment carried out by the United Nations Country Team and the Government in December 2023, there were 161,876 people in need of humanitarian aid. As for WFP analysis in December 2023 (satellite images), around 32,188 people have been directly affected by flooding in ten districts in these same regions.

In addition to polio epidemics, the country also experienced a triple health epidemic with several suspected cases recorded at week 37 including 1,125 cases of shigellosis, 1,284 cases of typhoid fever, 71 cases of cholera and 86 cases of mpox (13 confirmed).

Finally, with around 135,400 refugees and asylum seekers, from CAR and the DRC, the country continued to respond to their crucial need in terms of health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, and protection.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

UNICEF continued his support the consolidation of the response against COVID-19: the proportion of people fully vaccinated increased from 11 per cent in 2022 to 12 per cent in 2023.

UNICEF also supported the response to an epidemic of invasive diarrhoea in the town of Dolisie, Niari region, linked mainly to two bacteria: salmonellosis and shigellosis. This epidemic resulted in more than 2,227 suspected cases, including 60 confirmed cases, 63 operated cases and 24 deaths (case fatality rate among confirmed cases was 40 per cent).

Also, in all humanitarian area interventions, 19,910 people accessed primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities including 956 children and 10,353 women.

To support routine vaccination for children in humanitarian contexts, UNICEF purchased necessary vaccines, strengthened cold chain, and supported to catch-up vaccination. 9,500 children under one year were vaccinated against measles out of the 6,181 children targeted, i.e., 154 per cent. 4,849 children received their third dose of the pentavalent vaccine. 2,345 pregnant women received at least two doses of tetanus vaccine and 1,231,465 children under five years vaccinated against during polio campaigns.

NUTRITION

In close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, civil society and respective regional health directorates, UNICEF supported the treatment of children with severe wasting, with a particular focus on four high prevalence areas (Pointe Noire, Brazzaville, Pool and Likouala) hosting refugees from DRC and CAR and facing recurrent floods. During 2023, 6,692 children aged between 6 months and 5 years were admitted for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) treatment (36 per cent of caseload). The number of admissions has shown a 35 per cent decline compared to 2022 year (10,437 or 39 per cent of caseload). While the reporting rate in 2023 was lower as compared to 2022, the decline is also due to issues ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) being out of stock. In addition, 142 children aged 6-59 months with severe wasting were admitted for treatment out of 179 targeted (80 per cent). Programme performance indicators are within acceptable standards with 84 per cent cure rate, 1 per cent death rate and 9 per cent defaulter rate.

CHILD PROTECTION

In terms of child protection, children were impacted alongside their parents during the flooding and health epidemics of 2023. With UNICEF support, 5,014 (25 per cent of those affected) adolescent children and caregivers/guardians benefited from mental health and psychological support services at community level.

EDUCATION

In 2023, in collaboration with UNHCR, UNICEF provided individual learning materials to 4,177 refugee children and 1,996 children affected by the floods. These refugee children came from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and live mainly in Bouanga, Bouemba, Makotimpoko (Plateaux department) and in Ngabé in the northern part of the Pool department. The children affected by the floods live in Betou and Enyelle in the Likouala department.

Each individual student received one school bag, one French book, one mathematics book, six notebooks, one slate, an eraser, four pens, two pencils, two pencil sharpeners, one ruler and two chalk boxes. Overall, 6,173 children (2,938 girls and 3,235 boys) in humanitarian situations, including 4,177 refugee children, including 1,954 girls, and 87 children with disabilities (41 girls and 46 boys) enjoyed their right to education during this school year through UNICEF assistance.

WASH

In 2023, WASH interventions of UNICEF in emergency context reached 242,420 people including 190,189 people affected by the floods and 52,231 others affected by the health emergencies.

In the case of floods, these 190,189 people live in flood-affected localities along the river corridor. They received essential water, sanitation and hygiene supplies and services. Through the Ministry of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Humanitarian Action, 24,000 bars of soap and home water treatment products were distributed as part of the response to the floods.

In this case of the response to the epidemics in Dolisie (Niari), 52,231 affected people received 32,900 bars of soap and home water treatment and latrine disinfection products. In addition, UNICEF provide the Niari Departmental Directorate of Health with communication equipment (200 vests to ensure the visibility of community agents deployed as part of the response and 28 megaphones) and 28 sprayers.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

In 2023, UNICEF developed Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) interventions in collaboration with civil society organizations (CSOs) and community stakeholders (9,163 people) to support the response to the humanitarian situation in Congo. What's more, 1,608 people accessed to established community accountability mechanisms.

To consolidate the response to COVID-19, UNICEF used the findings of a study conducted in 2022 on factors limiting the uptake of vaccination against COVID-19 to develop and implement strategies to increase demand. As a result, 1,373,715 people were made aware of

the benefits of COVID-19 vaccination and 30,063 of them were vaccinated.

In the event of a resurgence of mpox cases, RCCE activities conducted by 235 community health workers reached 209,029 people living in high-risk areas in the four targeted regions.

In response to epidemic of invasive diarrhoea, mainly associated with salmonellosis and shigellosis, in the town of Dolisie, Niari region, UNICEF supported the implementation of RCCE interventions that reached 99,332 people (56 per cent of the targeted population).

SOCIAL INCLUSION

In this area, there is no specific intervention in favour to affected populations during the year to report.

NON-FOOD ITEMS

As part of WASH interventions, 242,420 affected people received essential water, sanitation and hygiene supplies and services including 190,189 people living in flood-affected localities. Overall, 56,900 bars of soap and home water treatment products were provided to affected people and 200 vests to community agents deployed, 28 megaphones and 28 sprayers to the Niari Department.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

A. ROCH, A CHAMPION OF HEALTH IN HIS COMMUNITY

Community players have always played an important role in Africa, contributing above all to filling the gaps in the public health system, and their contributions have made and continue to make a difference.

Roch Bemba is a champion in his community, wearing four different hats: Head of Block, Head of Zone, President of his local Red Cross and community liaison officer.

Roch lives in Bacongo, one of Brazzaville's oldest neighborhoods.

For him, a community relay has to be well trained because the community trusts him, and health is very important.

To convince his community to get vaccinated, he has his own method: he goes around with his health pass, which certifies that he has been vaccinated against COVID-19.



Roch Bemba, Community Health Worker, Bacongo, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo

"How can we get people to get vaccinated if we're not vaccinated ourselves? At my age, they know I can't lie to them, so it's easier for them to get vaccinated."

"This training with GSDR has helped me to strengthen my ability to mobilize and raise awareness. We don't communicate in the same way when we're in the middle of an epidemic as when the COVID-19 vaccine is part of routine vaccination."

Roch Bemba is a fervent advocate of the benefits of vaccinations, and with each new vaccination campaign he takes action to convince parents who are still reluctant to have their children vaccinated against vaccine-preventable diseases. He doesn't hesitate to use photos to show them the consequences of these diseases on their children's health. "I don't want to frighten them, but sometimes it's important to show them what their child is at risk of, especially as vaccines are free - why deprive your child of good health?"

"I remember a lady who used to hide her children in her house every time she was visited by the vaccinators. When I showed her the photo of these children who were completely disabled after catching polio, she immediately took her three children out to have them vaccinated. I made her understand that vaccinating your children is an act of love, because it's helping to give them a healthy future."

B. Religious Leaders At The Forefront Against COVID-19

On Friday 14 October 2022, the National Coordination for the Management of the COVID-19 Pandemic in the Republic of Congo decided to lift the state of health emergency in the country, as well as all barrier measures.

Vaccination and screening operations for COVID-19 have also been reinstated as part of routine vaccination. Although COVID-19 no longer kills as it used to, it is still present, but for many Congolese, if all these barrier measures are lifted, it means that COVID-19 no longer exists and that there is therefore no longer any reason to be vaccinated against the disease.

Sister Dora Okona and Fred Dzondo are religious leaders. For more than ten years, sister Dora has been in charge of the Camille Médéa Chiclinno Pateliani health centre in the Catholic parish of Mfilou, and Fred is a deacon in the Evangelical Church of Congo.

According to estimates, around 40 per cent of the country's population is Catholic (49 per cent according to the Vatican), 35 per cent Protestant or affiliated to revivalist churches, 9 per cent Muslim and 10 per cent Kimbanguist.



Sister Dora Okona, Head of Health at the Mfilou Catholic Parish

Sister Dora took a leadership role during vaccination during the fight against COVID-19. "Since 2019, I have been part of the awareness-raising teams. Today the epidemic has slowed down but it's still there, so we need to keep getting vaccinated to protect ourselves. As a nun, it's much easier for me to convince people of the benefits of vaccination. When we received the first vaccines in Congo, with all the misinformation circulating it wasn't always easy, so we used little techniques like giving them a bit of rice or a few masks in exchange for their vaccination against COVID-19."



Fred Dzondo, Deacon at the Evangelical Church of Congo

"We worked hard to dispel the false myths about COVID-19 vaccines, from denying the existence of the virus to various false side effects."

The Église Évangélique du Congo (EECo) is the first and largest Protestant church in the Congo.

Fred is a deacon there, and he believes that the community must protect itself, even if some of its members are sceptical about the reality of the epidemic. "I insist on barrier measures, such as washing hands with clean water and soap," which he believes can protect the community from a number of diseases.

COTE D'IVOIRE

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

In 2023, Côte d'Ivoire was heavily impacted by the ongoing conflicts in the Sahel. The persistence of insecurity in neighbouring countries has resulted in an influx of refugees, mainly from Burkina Faso. As of 31 December 2023, the number of asylum seekers is estimated by the UNHCR at 44,579 people (57 per cent children and 25 per cent women), mostly hosted in the Tchologo and Bounkani regions.

This situation has put additional pressure on basic social services, such as access to drinking water, health care, education and protection services, which are already insufficient in these two regions. To cope with the influx of these populations, the national coordination of the response is managed by the National Security Council (CNS) and the regional coordination is under the responsibility of the Prefects. The Government has set up two relocation transit sites (one site per region: Nironigué in Ouangolodougou (Tchologo) and Timalah in Bouna (Bounkani) to accommodate the asylum seekers. Since July 2023, the relocation of refugees to the two transit sites (Nironigué and Timalah) is operational. As of 4 December 2023, 1,729 households (for a total of 9,682 people) have been relocated to the two sites.

Three joint assessments (Government, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNWOMEN, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP) were conducted in January 2023, February 2023 and April 2023 in the regions of Tchologo and Bounkani in the north and north-east, to assess whether the humanitarian needs of both affected and local/hosting populations are met. These assessments confirmed the significant needs of the populations in several sectors, including child protection, biometric registration and social welfare, drinking water, food supply in the markets, access to medical care, access to education.

During 2023, Côte d'Ivoire faced heavy rains, often accompanied by violent winds, causing flooding and landslides. This bad weather affected more than 5,500 households and caused 60 deaths.

Côte d'Ivoire also remains at risk of epidemics. During 2023, 4,928 suspected and 1,059 confirmed measles cases were reported. During the same period, 5,551 cases of yellow fever were notified with 20 cases confirmed and 3,453 cases of Dengue fever with 194 confirmed cases. Also 761 AFP cases reported from 113 health districts in the country⁷, including two cases of Derived Poliomyelitis (CVDPV) recorded and confirmed in the health districts of Bouna and Doropo.

Since May 2023, COVID-19 no longer constitutes a health emergency in Côte d'Ivoire.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

In 2023, UNICEF responded to the humanitarian needs of 186,191 people, including 150,633 children (against a target of 292,755 people and 184,917 children respectively). UNICEF scaled up its emergency response to the humanitarian needs of asylum seekers from Burkina Faso and host communities, following an eleven-fold upsurge in numbers since the beginning of year, despite sub-optimal conditions for the humanitarian operations. The Government has not issued a declaration of state of emergency, which has rendered emergency resource mobilization challenging, especially in a context of several ongoing major humanitarian crises worldwide competing for humanitarian funding. UNICEF resorted to an Emergency Programme Fund (EPF) loan, which it could not reimburse during the current fiscal year, due to lack of flexible emergency funding. Only 27 per cent of the US\$11.5 million requested through the Consolidated Humanitarian Appeal for Children (HAC) 2023 was funded.

As part of its response to the Sahel crisis and conflict spillover in the north of the country, UNICEF strengthened coordination mechanisms to improve emergency preparedness and response. Given the limited resources and to facilitate the effective planning of interventions, in June 2023 UNICEF provided technical and financial support to the administrative authorities of the Tchologo and Bounkani regions, to organize two workshops for the identification, targeting and planning of interventions addressing the needs of affected populations and host communities.

The 10 per cent emergency response clause is systematically included to all relevant programme cooperation agreements. UNICEF activated the contingency clause (10 per cent of the budget) under the agreement with its partner Action Contre la Faim, an international NGO, to strengthen the skills of the northern WASH sector members on WASH in emergencies. In order to improve its response to affected children in the north of the country, in September and December 2023 UNICEF activated the contingency clause (10 per cent of the budget) under the agreements with its three partner NGOs GFM3, CARITAS Odienné and ARK. In November 2023, UNICEF entered into a partnership with the NGO CIAUD for a multi-sectoral response (WASH, Nutrition, Health, Child Protection) in the two regions affected by the Sahel crisis.

Although the COVID-19 is no longer a health emergency, the country continues to face the lingering effects of COVID-19, with a total of 88,335 cases and 835 deaths reported from March 2020 to June 2023. The essential COVID-19 response activities concern surveillance and immunization through the routine programme of immunization and primary health care.

HEALTH

Humanitarian emergency funds allowed UNICEF to continue to support the COVID-19 response, particularly the immunization campaign. From January to June 2023, a total of 3,453,928 people received vaccinations against COVID-19, of whom 1,308,618 were fully vaccinated. In February 2023, some 1,033 refugees received vaccine doses against COVID-19.

5,551 cases of yellow fever were notified with 20 cases confirmed positive and 3,453 cases of dengue fever with 194 confirmed cases. UNICEF provided support to the Ministry of Health to respond to measles, the dengue and polio epidemics that occurred in 2023. UNICEF provided medical equipment and essential drugs to the health regions of Bounkani and Tchologo in the northeast to meet the needs of the

influx of refugees from Burkina Faso. In June 2023, UNICEF provided technical and financial support to the Health Department of Bounkani for the organization of a campaign to intensify vaccination against measles in the four health districts of Bounkani. This campaign, which began on 21 June 2023, targets children aged 0-59 months from refugees and host communities. From January to November 2023, with UNICEF support, a total of 94,786 children, including 5,500 refugees, were vaccinated against measles (target:114,299). UNICEF donated 1,000 health kits for adolescents and young people to the School and University Health Service in Ouangolodougou.

UNICEF supported the setting up of a health centre at the Timalah relocation transit site (Bounkani), by supplying essential drugs to the health centers covering the site and providing two tents (24 m²) to Timalah site health centres.

64 motorcycles (30 for Tchologo and 34 for Bounkani) were provided to health centres in the two regions for the implementation of advanced strategies as part of the routine EPI. These machines will also facilitate the mobility of health workers to provide care to refugees both within the transit sites of Nioronigué and Timalah, but also in the various host communities.

UNICEF provided technical support to the Regional Health Direction of Tchologo and Bounkani to set up the Sub-national Health Nutrition Sector Group.

In May 2023, the office had organized a three-day workshop to reinforce internal capacity on emergency preparedness and response and the L2 emergency procedure, which enabled the team to speed up the emergency response in the north.

NUTRITION

Through its regular resources and the EPF loan, the country office supported the National Nutrition Programme (NNP) efforts to strengthen access to essential nutrition interventions through training for healthcare providers and delivery of essential supplies. From January to May 2023, UNICEF and the NNP strengthened the malnutrition treatment capacities of 160 health workers in health centres in localities hosting refugees. In July 2023, UNICEF requested the support of the Regional Office for West and Central Africa (WCARO) to strengthen skills in nutrition in emergency of the partners involved in the implementation of nutrition interventions in the north of the country.

A total of 714 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food, 60 cartons of F100 milk, 60 cartons of F75 milk and monitoring tools were distributed in the health centres serving the localities hosting the refugees and the transit sites to ensure the treatment of children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In April 2023, active malnutrition screening took place in the Tchologo and Bounkani regions. A total of 109,018 children aged 6-59 months, including 1,541 refugees, were screened for acute malnutrition through the Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurement. 567 children aged 6-59 months were screened for severe acute malnutrition (MUAC/Oedema).

In the northern regions of the country, throughout 2023, 3,984 severely malnourished children under-five received treatment and 22,905 children were supplemented with Vitamin A (target:2,786).

CHILD PROTECTION

UNICEF has strengthened the capacities of communities through Child Protection Committees and social workers of Tchologo and Bounkani, with capacity building in mental health and psychosocial support, and child protection in emergencies. To strengthen their capacity in case management, collection and transmission of administrative data, five social centres and the Regional Directorates of Tchologo and Bounkani were provided with computer kits (7 computers, 7 printers, inverters, etc.). A total of 32 social workers from four social services from the Tchologo and Bounkani regions have been trained in information management according to CPIMS+ principles and as supervisors and case managers. A total of 112 Intimate Hygiene and NFI kits were distributed to over 560 people affected by flooding in Ouangolodougou in July 2023.

As part of resilience activities, with the support of the Peace Building Fund (PBF), from 26 to 28 April 2023, a cross-border workshop bringing together 57 child protection actors (social workers, administrative authorities, United Nations agencies, NGO) from Côte d'Ivoire (24) and Burkina Faso (23) resulted in the establishment of a cross-border network to strengthen cooperation in child protection. Following the establishment of this cross-border network, cross-border case management was operationalized in May 2023. Through the establishment the cross-border network between Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso, the social services of Burkina Faso (Kampti and Niangoloko) and Cote d'Ivoire (Bouna and Ferkessedougou) collaborated to manage 28 cases of child victims of marriage as well as their family reunification.

From January to December 2023, 547 children victims of violence received individual case management for their protection (medical care, psychosocial care, legal aspects), including 28 (5 girls) through cross-border networks (target:500), through UNICEF and its partners (social workers).

With the aim of preventing and protecting children against sexual abuse and exploitation (PSEA) in refugee-hosting areas, in 2023 UNICEF strengthened the capacities of some 559 actors working in the north, including government actors, community members, NGO workers and young U-Reporters on PSEA in general and prevention and reporting measures in particular.

Following the operationalization of the refugee reception sites, in November 2023 UNICEF supported the establishment of a child-friendly space at the Timalah site, to provide psychosocial support for the children. A child protection committee, comprising 15 women and 10 men, has also been set up at the Timalah site. The aim is to involve the community more closely in the design and implementation of child protection activities, and to reach more children. The members of this committee have been trained in children's rights and their protection against violence, abuse and exploitation.

During 2023, in the Bounkani and Tchologo regions, 8,059 people (2,027 women; 2,071 men; 1,972 girls; 1,989 boys) were reached with awareness raising on topics related to child protection(children's rights, GBV, protection against violence, abuse and exploitation, birth registration, child labour) with support from the 30 committees of child protection set up in 2022 in border villages. These child protection committees referred 312 cases of unregistered children to civil registration services.

EDUCATION

As part of the education response, UNICEF partnered with local NGOs to ensure educational continuity for refugee children from Burkina Faso. This involved providing accelerated learning courses to 1,734 children (856 girls) in 40 temporary learning spaces with the aim of integrating them into the system. With UNICEF's support, four Regional Emergency Education Groups (CRESU) have been set up in the Bounkani, Poro, Tchologo and Bagoué regions, to meet growing humanitarian needs. UNICEF also strengthened the capacities of local stakeholders in emergency education and UNICEF supported the operation of the Emergency Education Coordination team with six computers and three motorcycles.

To provide a better learning environment for children, during the month of January 2023, UNICEF along with its partners completed the rehabilitation of one school (three classrooms and one office for teachers) in Bole (Téhini -Bounkani).

In January 2023, UNICEF also strengthened the capacities of nine volunteer teachers (three women and six men) in support of the reopening of Togolokaye Primary School, which was closed in 2021. In March 2023, UNICEF strengthened the capacities of members of the national sector group on norms and standards for education in emergencies.

Underfunding affected education-in-emergency response, UNICEF being able to provide individual learning materials to just 34,857 children (16,766 girls), including 1,734 children affected by Sahel crisis, against a target of 209,150.

UNICEF's education section was allocated US\$150,000 in thematic emergency funding to develop an innovative model for ensuring continuity of education in case of school closures. UNICEF worked closely with the Ministry of Education to ensure that computer tablets are preloaded with the e-learning programme 'My School at Home' that could be prepositioned in communities alongside printed self-learning booklets for children and guides for community educators.

WASH

Using UNICEF Country Office Regular Resources, the EPF loan, as well as the US NatCom and PBF funds, UNICEF's support enabled 19,515 people (including hosts families and refugee populations) to have access to safe water (i.e. 275 per cent of the target) and 1,810 people to have access to hygiene kits (i.e. 18 per cent of the target).

To improve access to drinking water and thus the quality of care, drinking water boreholes were built in six health centres in localities hosting asylum seekers, with support from USAID and Canada.

Work on the five mini water supply systems initiated as part of resilience-building programme in five host villages in Tchologo et in Bounkani were finalized and delivered. 5 schools and 4 health care facilities, benefit from these water services.

Regarding the hygiene component, UNICEF responded to two requests from the Ministry of Solidarity and the Prefect of Ouangolodougou to respond to floods in July 2023 in Ouangolodougou and in Adzope in September 2023; 250 households were assisted in Adzope and 112 households in Ouangolodougou.

In terms of sanitation and hygiene, 64 emergency latrines coupled with hand-washing facilities are being installed at each site housing temporary learning spaces. These facilities benefit the 1,734 children (856 girls) attending the 40 temporary learning spaces set up by the education section.

UNICEF will continue to invest and work in partnership with the Government, NGO partners and communities to maintain and expand these services over time.

Four coordination meetings of the WASH Sub-National sector group (in the north) were organized. These meetings aim to ensure better WASH Sector coordination, preparedness and response.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

In June 2023, UNICEF developed a partnership with CREESEAP, a local association of academic sociologists, anthropologists and development specialists, to conduct rapid research on social and behaviour change and AAP (Accountability to Affected Populations). This rapid assessment took place from 1 to 10 September 2023. 1,488 people (refugees and host communities) from 25 localities in the Tchologo and Bounkani regions participated in this evaluation on two-way communication and feedback mechanisms.

UNICEF acquired 30 tablets which are used to support the implementation of this rapid action research, and which will then be used to set up community feedback mechanisms.

As part of resilience-building, 721 adolescents and young Ambassadors for Peace and Social Cohesion were reinforced to conduct inter-community and inter-generational dialogues. Awareness-raising sessions on the peaceful resolution of conflicts and destigmatisation were carried out by these Ambassadors for Peace and Social Cohesion.

Using UNICEF Country Office Regular Resources, the EPF loan, the knowledge and skills of 50 girls aged 13 to 24 years from host communities and refugees were strengthened in Bouna and Ouangolo, in female leadership, peacekeeping, social cohesion, conflict prevention and management. These girls helped to set up 15 girls' leadership clubs in the host communities, and to identify 336 young leaders from all components of the host community, as well as refugees.

A network of 427 adolescents and young people contributed to the dissemination of messages of peace and social cohesion, 52 per cent of whom are adolescents and young girls. The online information centre of the U-Report platform has also been updated to take into account the themes of social cohesion and peaceful conflict management. This centre was consulted by 29,130 U-Reporters.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

- La protection de l'enfant est au cœur du mandat de l'UNICEF
<https://www.unicef.org/cotedivoire/recits/la-protection-de-lenfant-est-au-c%C5%93ur-du-mandat-de-lunicef>
- 4 piliers de la paix dans le Tchologo | UNICEF
<https://www.unicef.org/cotedivoire/recits/4-piliers-de-la-paix-dans-le-tchologo>
- La vie à Kafolo | Pour Chaque Enfant (ausha.co)
<https://smartlink.ausha.co/pour-chaque-enfant/la-vie-a-kafolo>
- RESPAIX KALAMON - INTERVIEW AVEC PRESIDENT DES JEUNES by Jeunes Reporters CIV (soundcloud.com)
<https://soundcloud.com/jeunes-reporters-civ/kalamon-interview-avec-president-des-jeunes>

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

In Equatorial Guinea, 2023 saw an outbreak of Marburg Virus Disease (MVD). Authorities declared the outbreak on 13 February 2023 and announced its end on 7 June 2023, after 17 confirmed cases were reported in five districts in the continental region. Twelve of the confirmed cases died and all probable cases were reported deaths (75 per cent of the case fatality ratio). Since the declaration of the outbreak, UNICEF closely monitored the districts initially affected and actively participated in district and regional-level coordination meetings. This work improves the planning, reporting, and implementing of preventive measures for a rapid response at scale to curb the spread of the disease and limit its impact, primarily for the pillars of coordination, risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), infection prevention and control – water sanitation and hygiene (IPC-WASH), mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), continuity of essential services, and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

211 cases of measles were identified, in 17 out of 18 districts and 2 cases of yellow fever in 2 districts. In order to respond to the situation, Government and partners have been implementing periodic intensification of routine immunization (PIRI) at both national and decentralized levels.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

During 2023, UNICEF prioritized continuity of routine immunization: 13,323 children were vaccinated with Penta3 (71 per cent of coverage) and 72 per cent of health districts had at least 80 per cent of coverage. In addition, to ensure continuity of health services to the affected districts during the MVD outbreak, UNICEF supported door-to-door outreach interventions. 614 children benefitted from immunization services, Vitamin A supplements, child growth and development monitoring consultations and 2,000 mosquito nets were distributed.

96 health workers strengthened their technical skills in Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) in the framework of the micro-plans based on the continuity of Primary Health Care (PHC) services. The country has been affected by two outbreaks of measles and yellow fever due to the low coverage and MVD emergency. UNICEF supported the EPI to implement blockage intervention including three Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs) to recover children with zero doses according to the health district equity analysis to identify zero-dose children in more affected districts.

UNICEF has supported the MoH in the development of the National Health Security Plan, prioritizing Social and Behavioural Change (SBC), RCCE and WASH components.

NUTRITION

In 2023, 25,541 Vitamin A capsules acquired by UNICEF were administered to children aged 6-59 months, 11,862 (10 per cent) for the first semester and 13,679 (11 per cent) in the second semester of 120,941 doses targeted per semester. Of the total doses administered, 13,605 (34 per cent) were for children aged 6-11 months of the expected 40,102 doses, and 11,936 (6 per cent) were for children aged 12-59 months of the expected 200,780 doses. Although coverage is very low, a slight increase is observed in the number of doses administered during the second semester as a result of the SIAs combined with Vitamin A in the fourth quarter. UNICEF has also supported the MoH in carrying out an analysis of bottlenecks at the district level and describing opportunities to improve coverage due the low Vitamin A coverage.

UNICEF continues to support the MoH in strengthening 151 staff capacity to improve the rate of exclusive breastfeeding, considering the challenges existing in health facilities to promote the initiation and continuation of exclusive breastfeeding.

CHILD PROTECTION

UNICEF partook in a thorough rapid diagnosis of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), assessing governmental and non-governmental entities involved. The analysis, aligned with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) intervention pyramid for MHPSS in

emergencies, considered technical knowledge, resources, location, and intervention types. Adolescents' perspectives on mental health and service accessibility were integral.

The forthcoming presentation of the MHPSS needs assessment to the MoH's Mental Health Direction and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Children Directions is pivotal for strengthening case identification, referral mechanisms, and responses, extending support to child protection services beyond emergencies.

In response to the findings, UNICEF facilitated the creation of an MHPSS response plan for families in MVD-affected rural areas. Led by UNICEF's child protection section in collaboration with national civil society organizations and the Government, the plan involved 280 frontline workers trained in psychological first aid, case identification and referral. Fifteen MHPSS focal points held weekly discussions to provide specialized attention to affected families.

Through home visits and phone calls, 1,731 children, adolescents, and caregivers received psychological support, addressing needs related to the MVD or COVID-19 epidemic and preventing separation of children with sick or deceased caregivers. UNICEF's ongoing rapid diagnosis on MHPSS services aims to enhance preparedness and response. Collaboration with the health sector has advanced efforts to advocate for and strengthen the Ministry of Social Affairs' capacity in handling cases of violence against children. Ninety-seven social workers have already enhanced skills to support vulnerable children and adolescents, including those with disabilities and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

PSEA

UNICEF and WHO trained 17 UN staff and 4 Red Cross staff on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). Participants then provided PSEA briefing sessions to 97 social workers from the Ministry of Social Affairs and MoH mental health focal points. A more in-depth training, conducted with UNFPA and the NGO Foundation of Religious for Health, involved 76 social workers. This comprehensive session covered fundamental concepts and types of gender-based violence (GBV), addressing root causes, consequences, phases of the violence cycle, victim-centered care principles, and essential services for a proper response. The training included techniques for conducting psychosocial interviews with children, case management, and community-level case referrals.

During the training, officials' commitment to PSEA was emphasized, highlighting the importance of understanding power dynamics and trust relationships with beneficiary populations and communities. UNICEF and partners are mapping existing services at the district level to address cases of sexual abuse and exploitation. Thirteen civil society organizations and ten young leaders received similar training. In November, another session focused on social work and working with persons with disabilities, attended by 94 of the 97 social workers and delegates from the Ministry of Social Affairs and mental health focal points. This concludes a cycle of introductory training for newly appointed officials responsible for preventing and responding to violence against children in development and emergency contexts.

EDUCATION

During the 2022-2023 academic year 236,624 students had access to formal education. On June 2023, the Ministry of Education (MoE) with the support of UNICEF, carried out learning assessments at the national level for Grades 3 and 6. The Learning Passport (e-learning platform) was created and customized for the country; currently, national digital content is being developed to support student learning and teaching.

UNICEF delivered essential supplies for infection prevention and control to 107 schools, where 100 young volunteers were trained on preventive measures against infectious disease; they are now conducting sessions to raise awareness on good hygiene practices in schools among students and the school community in Bata. Moreover, UNICEF conducted a digital and communication skills development workshop with 20 adolescents and youth. In coordination with the MoE, UNICEF reached more adolescents and young people through U-Report to ensure their voices are heard, as approximately 600 new U-Reporters signed up through social media platforms. UNICEF in collaboration with UNDP, conducted its first training sessions in Malabo with 15 adolescent girls and youth on menstrual hygiene management through piloting/testing an educational guide developed by WASH United.

WASH

UNICEF supported the MoH to carry out the WASH situation analysis in the 58 health facilities. The main results of this analysis are the following: 75 per cent of health facilities have an improved water source; only 37 per cent of these have water available throughout the year; 13 per cent of health facilities have a water facilities maintenance system; 94 per cent of health facilities have an operational excreta disposal system, although 80 per cent of these systems need improvement. Any health facility in the country has toilets/ latrines for children or persons with disabilities. Only 20 per cent of health facilities have separate toilets/latrines for men and women.

UNICEF contributed to the construction and rehabilitation of water and sanitation system in four health districts, benefitting 300 health workers and 4,500 patients. UNICEF also provided 82 water tanks, 154 waste buckets, 266 hydroalcoholic gels and 250 pairs of gloves. IPC hygiene and medical waste kits, were distributed to 44 health facilities, benefitting 392 health workers and communities. UNICEF supported to conduct field monitoring of IPC-WASH activities, reaching 375 women in affected households, and disinfecting 36 health facilities to prevent MVD transmission.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

UNICEF, alongside WHO, Red Cross, and partners, trained and supervised 2,000 individuals in MVD prevention with a focus on community engagement. In December 2023, additional training for 60 community health workers in five priority districts reached a total of 2,060 people trained in MVD prevention. UNICEF also produced and disseminated communication materials⁸ in Spanish and five national languages. 524,770 people were reached through interpersonal communication activities and RCCE messages on radio and television, and over

325,000 engaged on social media, complemented by 15 press releases. Post-Marburg RCCE activities concentrated on promoting IPC in health facilities, schools and communities. 190 talks were held, 149 in schools and 41 in hospitals. Eight TV and radio reports were produced by rural stations.

UNICEF's comprehensive RCCE strategy aimed at promoting optimal health practices involved 31 health education sessions with the Bata district health team, reaching 1,024 people. Eleven coordination meetings ensured community participation. Moreover, UNICEF and allies disseminated nine video reports via TV and radio, reaching around 400,000 people. Messages on preventing infectious diseases were shared on UNICEF's social media, reaching 51,500 people. IPC messages reached approximately 330,500 people through UNICEF social media, and 730,500 through digital and traditional media channels.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

Links to UNICEF social networks posts:

FACEBOOK:

- What are infectious diseases?

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=304973768894073&set=a.149394354452016>

- Health education talks on infectious diseases in the Nsork district

<https://www.facebook.com/UNICEFGuineaEcu/posts/pfbid0KXhHg1kQP94eE2E6AKmV6MtMj1YfayqDLfBbuQxUq3MFGYfWrrICYMYJAqW3A9DSI>

Instagram

- What are infectious diseases?

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CxLX086IAuS/?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA%3D%3D>

GHANA

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The country continued to experience the effects of the crisis in the Sahel region with movement of displaced persons across the border from Burkina Faso into the Upper East, Upper West and Northeast regions of Ghana. According to UNHCR, a total of 15,000 people (8,000 in Upper East and 7,000 in Upper West Regions) displaced by the situation in the Sahel region entered the country in the course of the year. Out of this number, about 1,035 people, including children, were received at a re-settlement centre at Tarikom in the Upper East Region, which is managed by the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB) in collaboration with UNHCR, and a similar reception centre is being set up in Gini in the Sissala West District in Upper West Region by the GRB/UNHCR. While the influx in 2023 is less than anticipated, the northern part of the country bordering Burkina Faso continues to be at risk. UNICEF developed and rolled out a 90-day response plan to mitigate the effects of the of the influx on asylum seekers coming into Ghana.

In September 2023, the release of water from the hydro-electric dams at Akosombo and Kpong due to threats to dam safety caused extensive flooding in the lower parts of the Volta River Basin. The flooding affected over 39,000 people in 192 communities, principally in the Volta Region, and led to the displacement of a significant number of people. The impacts of the event included loss of property and livelihoods, as well of the disruption of key social services such as health, education and water supply.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

In 2023, UNICEF continued to prioritize support for border districts affected by effects of the Sahel crisis spillover. Through support provided from Japan, in four priority districts in Upper East and West regions, 18,416 children below five years received the minimum set of life saving vaccines. To respond to the rapidly changing humanitarian needs in the two priority border regions under UNICEF's 90-day response plan, further support was provided for a rapid assessment and response in five additional districts experiencing an influx of asylum seekers. As at 22 December 2023, 2,102 children (1,092 boys and 1,010 girls) under five years and 2,606 women (including 1,078 adolescent girls) were reached with immunization and treatment in 35 communities, and similar efforts are ongoing to reach more children in additional communities.

The health team sent medical supplies to the North Tongu district to support with delivery of health care services to flood victims affected by the Akosombo dam spillage. One thousand long lasting insecticide bed nets were provided to flood victims to help control malaria.

NUTRITION

In 2023, a total of 11,791 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were admitted for treatment nationwide, of whom 1,221 were admissions from the two Sahel spillover affected regions (Upper East and Upper West). Out of the admissions in the two affected regions,

655 (75 per cent) were successfully treated and discharged. Additionally, 341,188 children 6-59 months received life-saving vitamin A supplements; 116,594 caregivers of children 0-23 months received counselling on optimal infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices in the affected regions, while 86,730 adolescents and 57,964 pregnant women received iron folic acid (IFA). Essential nutrition supplies including therapeutic foods and milks and anthropometric equipment were procured. The capacities of 90 health staff were also built in SAM management. UNICEF supported the Ghana Health Service - Upper East Region to conduct a rapid assessment of the health and nutritional status of children, women, and adolescents in 35 communities across 5 priority districts.

UNICEF's nutrition team sent supplies to the North Tongu district to support flood victims affected by the Akosombo dam spillage. It included supplies such as therapeutic foods, and child's mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) measurement equipment.

CHILD PROTECTION

In 2023, Ghana established its inaugural National Child Protection in Emergency Working Group co-chaired by the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection and UNICEF. Over 250 frontline workers from 30 districts across five regions affected by the Sahel spillover and Volta flooding emergencies received comprehensive training on emergency preparedness and response. The training was centred on child protection minimum standards, UNICEF's core commitments for children, child protection rapid assessment, and addressing gender-based violence (GBV) and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). A rapid assessment was conducted in response to the flooding crisis in the Volta region.

To further support child protection efforts, UNICEF extended intensive case management coaching and supervision to five districts bordering Burkina Faso with a significant number of persons of concern. As a result, 5,014 people (including 3,082 children) have been profiled, and out of them, 1,635 people (including 1,021 children) benefited from case management facilitated by the Social Welfare Information Management System. Through emergency mobile birth registration services, 5,953 children were registered, including refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons (IDPs).

EDUCATION

In response to the influx of asylum seekers from Burkina Faso in five districts in the Upper East Region of Ghana, UNICEF supported the Ghana Education Service (GES) to train 116 education Officers on the provision of psychosocial support to traumatised pupils, to orient 480 SMC/PTA on their roles towards displaced populations and to supply 169 school-in-a-box kits and recreational material to 198 schools, benefitting 48,608 pupils (19,395 girls).

UNICEF is also collaborating with the Bawku West GES and District Assembly to construct five furnished, pre-fabricated temporary learning spaces in Tarikom Basic School in Bawku West District, to cater for about 600 additional asylum-seeking pupils from Burkina Faso.

WASH

UNICEF provided technical and financial support to enhance the WASH resilience of communities along the northern frontiers of the country that have been affected by the Sahel crisis. Under the initiative, an estimated 16,784 people, including about 4,500 children were reached with safe water supply. WASH infrastructure was also improved in ten health and education institutions, reaching about 20,000 people including 3,127 school children.

UNICEF also supported the timely response to major flooding in Lower Volta River, reaching 8,000 displaced people, including about 3,500 children, with critical water, sanitation and hygiene services and messages (risk communication). UNICEF also supported response coordination efforts through the WASH in Emergency (WinE) Technical Working Group at the national level.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

UNICEF enhanced the knowledge of 60 frontline officers from 15 government institutions, media and CSO partners in high-risk regions to co-create emergency-response key messages and build resilience. Emergency communication skills including interpersonal communication, community engagement and accountability to affected populations mechanisms were addressed. The trained service providers have since been applying these skills and are expected to reach over 8,000 immigrants and 500,000 (host) affected population about essential services for child survival and protection through various communication channels for safety and to build resilience. UNICEF also raised awareness on laws regarding peaceful co-habitation of immigrants and host communities.

With the onset of the flood due to the dam spillage in October 2023 in parts of the Volta region, UNICEF, upon consultation with the emergency response teams in the region, gave technical support and also allocated pre-positioned Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials such as posters, flipcharts and flyers and effectively communicated on key survival behaviours such as IYCF, Hand Hygiene, Cholera, diarrhoea and malaria prevention, safe water storage, among other needed information to an estimated 40,000 people in the affected communities and its surroundings.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

UNICEF supported an assessment of Ghana's social protection system's readiness to maintain its routine function in times of crisis and to adjust on its own or in coordination with other sectors. The assessment contributes to knowledge on how the system can be agile to accommodate additional needs because of shock, support resilience building and guide the development of a national shock responsive strategy for Ghana.

UNICEF also supported the displaced people in the Lower Volta Basin by ensuring free access to health care through registration and renewal of National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) provision for affected victims. The National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) are still in the process of registration and are yet to provide data on number of people registered.

PREVENTION OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA)

With support from the West and Central Africa Regional Office, UNICEF Ghana developed PSEA sensitization materials in consultation with communities, including girls and women, for dissemination to 460,000 people in the five districts affected by the Sahel crisis. UNICEF Ghana supported the development of the PSEA code of conduct, reaching 160 Ministry of Education and Ghana Education Service officers at the national and sub-national levels. Recognizing the nexus, child safeguarding has been integrated into the scope of the UNICEF Ghana PSEA Working Group with relevant actions included in the action plan and the terms of reference.

In 2023, UNICEF Ghana, as PSEA coordinator for the inter-agency network, provided technical support to strengthen country-level actions. Ghana's UN PSEA Network contributed to awareness raising among the UN personnel, especially the senior management, through sensitization sessions during the UN town hall meeting, the UNCT ad-hoc meeting on PSEA and the UN-led event for the 16 days of activism. A capacity needs assessment was conducted to inform the upcoming refresher training for the Network members. An international consultant is being recruited to develop the inter-agency standard operating procedures on common complaints and reporting mechanisms as well as to strengthen victim assistance among key implementing partners and service providers in 2024.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

The communication and advocacy team responded to the emergency in the Sahel and the flooding in the Volta region in the following ways. The emergency in the Sahel was documented through human interest stories, photos, and short videos, of how children in bordering communities were receiving displaced children and their families from affected countries. In Sapeliga, a community bordering Burkina Faso, peace clubs in schools were used to teach children on how to live in harmony with other children. A series of stories were written, and a short video developed articulating the work of the peace clubs in schools in that region. The videos were viewed by nearly 460 people on UNICEF Ghana social media platform and on the website. Links to these are below.

Later in the year, when the floods displaced people in the Volta region, UNICEF Ghana was there to document the various support given to children and affected families. UNICEF Ghana was also on the ground as part of the UNCT monitoring of the flood situation and this were also documented. The story told was accessed by over 24,000 people. In the links below are some stories of support given to children, girls and young people.

- Beatrice, a 14-year-old in class 6, lost her learning materials during the #AkosomboDamSpillage.
<https://web.facebook.com/UNICEFGhana/posts/pfbid02rVS5ccUjFjNBMMmujogqsjyYpsHkPAXS9U1xS6LYV4acCyzdS6B9Qv314Y8UeJhCbI>
- Children in North and Central Tongu Districts have been severely impacted by the #AkosomboDamSpillag
<https://web.facebook.com/UNICEFGhana/posts/pfbid02REAKxeqfA7fah2h1MmHiogb5nA5ep5SmzToheM5TJeZ48cSjJhdP2M5qCVMfhBKVI>
- UN agencies representing the UN in Ghana including UNICEF, visited a relocated community,Agbeketikpo
<https://web.facebook.com/UNICEFGhana/posts/pfbid02ve8ekXZ7DgJntugdGhco8iHfjBwY1X6codj7Gr8WVXcSBMGtupSRpHsW5feWLYxwI>
- Children are often the most affected by war, conflict and violence; psychologically, physically or e
<https://www.facebook.com/UNICEFGhana/posts/pfbid0vtL9z6ZyLakQsd3bze8VvC9urPkaZ4cbqSYd7oDYcpaVwd3Nn9PbFRpFnBDFKneMI>

GUINEA BISSAU

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Children's access to essential social services has been disrupted during the pre- and post election period in Guinea-Bissau as a result of political instability. The detention of the Minister of Finance and the Secretary of State for the Treasury triggered gunfire in several neighbourhoods of Bissau the capital on 1 December 2023. The President dissolved the Parliament elected in June and disbanded the Government established in August.

The disruption of all government and partner-supported services throughout December exacerbated existing reticance among donor partners that finance over 90 per cent of social sectors, undermining coverage of essential services for children. The limited government financing capacity and the freezing of ministerial accounts endanger key interventions such as the procurement of traditional and new vaccines, and payment of essential medicines and medical equipment for child survival. Consequently, the risk of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases has increased and the need for costly vaccination campaigns increases to prevent a repeat of measles and polio outbreaks.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

Maternal and child service continuity in Guinea-Bissau was negatively affected by political instability in 2023. The risk of COVID-19

resurgence also requires the improvement of COVID-19 vaccination coverage. Consequently, nationwide integrated vaccination campaigns were organized in March. Around 195,755 adults were vaccinated against COVID-19, and 85,002 children were vaccinated for routine immunization. Through this effort, 132 health care centres and 418 outreach sites were supported to improve vaccination service delivery, identification of missed populations, interpersonal communication, infection prevention and control (IPC), management of adverse effects following immunizations, and 1,966 vaccinators and support staff were trained. In September, an estimated 132,978 were vaccinated against COVID-19 and 309,183 girls and boys aged 1-7 years were vaccinated against Meningitis A. During the reporting period, emergency funds were also used to upgrade solarization and waste treatment capacity in three primary health care facilities and a further 21 staff were trained on logistics and the provision of cold chain equipment which consists in ultra-cold units for mRNA vaccine storage, walk-in cold rooms and/or freezers, 2-8°C refrigerators.

NUTRITION

UNICEF Guinea-Bissau in close collaboration with UNICEF Senegal was able to receive a donation of 500 boxes of plumpy nut from the Senegalese government to support the treatment of children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM). As result, 500 children benefitted from SAM treatment in the Oio region which is one of the areas of the country with the highest rates of malnutrition. Furthermore, 475 community health agents in all 10 health areas in the region benefitted from malnutrition screening training. After completing the training, these health professionals screened a total of 11,071 children (5,547 boys and 5,524 girls) aged between 6 and 59 months. The data revealed that 907 children were identified with moderate acute malnutrition and 96 children with severe acute malnutrition.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

UNICEF supported the roll-out of an urban social mobilization strategy for the COVID-19 and Meningitis A vaccination campaign. 220 young volunteers of the “Youth Platform for the Acceleration of Key Results for Children in Guinea-Bissau” comprising 47 youth associations and 86 young volunteers of the Red Cross contributed to the data collection and door-to-door sensitization activities reaching 54,000 people over five days as part of the integration of COVID-19 into routine immunization. UNICEF also evaluation of the National Strategic EPI Communication Plan 2018-2022. Nine teams consisting of United Nations and other partners were deployed in the nine regions of the country and conducted 42 Focus Group Discussions and 75 interviews to health staff and beneficiaries. Data collected is informing the elaboration of the new national EPI Strategic Communication Plan 2024-2027. Furthermore, UNICEF Guinea-Bissau reached around 1,074,230 people with integrated COVID-19 (including RI) messages/information through print, radio, digital media, and community/youth networks.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

- Mobilizing all to protect children and adults from vaccine-preventable diseases | UNICEF Guinea-Bissau
<https://www.unicef.org/guineabissau/stories/mobilizing-all-protect-children-and-adults-vaccine-preventable-diseases-0>
- Mobilizar todos para proteger crianças e adultos com vacinas | UNICEF Guinea-Bissau
<https://www.unicef.org/guineabissau/pt/historias/mobilizar-todos-para-proteger-crian%C3%A7as-e-adultos-com-vacinas>

LIBERIA

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The year 2023 witnessed a contextual shift from the COVID-19 pandemic to broader child centred emergencies across health, nutrition, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) and education. UNICEF's humanitarian focus shifted to child protection including children on move and prevention and responding to gender-based violence (GBV), and vulnerable and disadvantaged populations.

The country experienced generally peaceful presidential and parliamentary elections in 2023, though the process was marred by the fear of violence among communities throughout the year. Socio-economic and conflict dynamics continued to displace populations, compounding existing needs and the urgency for sustained advocacy on protection.

The contextual shifts revealed additional needs in mental health and psychosocial support, and education continuity, particularly among displaced and marginalized communities. However, funding constraints due to shrinking and shifting donor interest present challenges for a comprehensive response.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

UNICEF has been a pivotal force in Liberia's COVID-19 response, facilitating the acquisition of 5,021,370 COVID-19 vaccine doses from 2021 to December 2023. The support extended to disseminating 1,200 monitoring charts, 1,402,417 vaccination cards, and various essential ledgers across 725 health facilities in all 15 counties enabling the country to surpass UNICEF's regional goal of fully vaccinating 70 per cent of the intended population against COVID-19. By December 2023, 3,903,802 adults (77 per cent) had received a full COVID-19 vaccination. UNICEF's efforts contributed paediatric vaccine rollout, reaching 74,290 children with the first dose and 44,390 with the second dose. Fuel distribution resulted in strengthened cold chain system.

Moreover, UNICEF's involvement stretched to measles outbreaks, aiding in the procurement and distribution of vaccines, which led to the vaccination of 44,831 children. To fortify the oxygen delivery system, UNICEF procured a Pressure Swing Absorptive (PSA) plant, currently under construction, anticipated for completion in early 2024. Furthermore, UNICEF support extended to procuring and distributing essential drugs and medical supplies to seven counties, encompassing 150 primary public health care facilities. 325 health care workers in health facilities received PPE. Support also contributed to 181 women with HIV/AIDS getting ART. UNICEF CO and RO supported the joint External Evaluation (JEE) organized by the Government of Liberia, WHO and emergency stakeholders using the International Health Regulations (IHR's) Joint External Evaluation (JEE) tool. The evaluation assessed the country's ability to independently prevent, detect and rapidly respond to public health threats, and to better characterize the functionality of their core IHR capacities to ensure health security, taking into account the "One Health" approach. Most urgent needs and prioritize opportunities for increased preparedness, response and action were identified and the draft report is being finalized by the Government.

NUTRITION

UNICEF supported the Government in the revision of Maternal Infant and Young Child Feeding (MIYCF) messages. UNICEF's support also resulted in the procurement of essential lifesaving nutrition supplies such as therapeutic milks, ReSoMAI, RUTF (Ready to Use Therapeutic Food), Vitamin A, mebendazole, and Iron Folic Acid.

For planned nutrition interventions, all the targets were achieved; 25,133 children 0-59 months (82.3 per cent of targeted 30,551 children) were reached with SAM (Severe Acute Malnutrition) treatment services. UNICEF support to implement preventive services in 514 health facilities in 15 counties resulted in 158,343 children between the ages of 6-23 months receiving micronutrient powder (367 per cent), 247,402 children between the age of 6-59 months received vitamin A (1979 per cent) and 127,317 pregnant women received Iron Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation (660 per cent). A total of 505,958 (244 per cent) children screened for malnutrition and 612,289 (413 per cent) caregivers and pregnant women received counselling on MIYCF.

CHILD PROTECTION

UNICEF Liberia has prioritized emergency preparedness in its work with the Government of Liberia and civil society organizations. Over 2,200 people including 1,073 girls, 608 boys received Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, 11,000 individuals were reached by awareness with focused interventions provided for 2,475 adolescent girls to address child marriage. In addition, 504 children unaccompanied and separated children received interim care, and 31 were reunified with their families. 763 child survivors of sexual and gender based violence received multi-sectoral support, including legal aid and psychosocial care while 479 cases of children in conflict with the law (322 males and 157 females) were mediated, with 109 (94 males, 15 females) releases. In addition, 440 community members including 100 adolescents peer educators were trained to address child protection issues and 450 families received trainings in positive parenting. In terms of birth registration, 76,494 children under five received birth certificates, boosting decentralization efforts for birth registration with 98 per cent coverage of the 90 health districts in Liberia.

EDUCATION

UNICEF Liberia worked to mitigate the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on child education, while at the same time focusing on strengthening resilience at all levels of the education system. UNICEF-supported safe school protocols resulted in 100 per cent of the targeted 200 schools implementing the protocols remaining open for children. Support also ensured the renovation of segregated WASH facilities in 200 of the most vulnerable and at-risk schools, benefitting approximately 100,000 children for whom schooling had lost attraction.

UNICEF aided 6,246 schools, trained 6,428 teachers on crisis management, providing school with health kits, and implementing COVID-19 measures. This resulted in 73,849 children accessing education, 5,828 engaging in skills development programmes, and 85,000 receiving learning materials.

The Education in Emergencies (EiE) Group led by the Ministry of Education and co-chaired by UNICEF continued to operate as part of a systems strengthening approach and resulted in the establishment of a pilot "real-time" school-based information management system, commencing with 200 model schools.

WASH

In service delivery, the assessment of two healthcare facilities and two schools was completed on 27 June 2023, and the contract for the construction was signed on 7 December 2023. Furthermore, the assessment for decentralized water supply systems of six urban towns in Grand Cape Mount and Gbarpolu counties has been completed by the Ministry of Public Works on 30 June 2023, and the southwestern region assessment of the 14 additional urban towns in Maryland, Grand Gedeh, River Gee and Grant Kru was completed on 30 August 2023, by the Ministry of Public Works. Moreover, the construction of WASH facilities at a border point and hand-dug wells fitted with hand pumps in open-defecation-free communities was completed on 27 November 2023.

UNICEF has been working with the National Public Health Institute of Liberia to scale up sanitation activities through the Comprehensive and Harmonized Action to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (CHATWASH)- movement, and on August 8, 2023, 60 communities achieved Open Defecation Free status, however, the certification and verification process will be done in January 2024.

Under the leadership of the National WASH Commission and in coordination with the WASH sector partners, the WASH sector status performance assessment report was finalized and validated in April 2023.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

UNICEF continues to focus on ensuring that affected populations have access to life saving information to enhance their knowledge and

skills and foster the adaptation of positive behaviours with approximately 800,000 individuals reached with tailored communication and behaviour change strategies, promoting preventive health practices.

415,990 persons were engaged with Risk Communication and Community Engagement actions and empowered with knowledge and tools to make informed decisions and take positive actions had access to established accountability mechanisms.

Through a Memorandum of Understanding between the ministries of Health, Education, and Internal Affairs, a school-based vaccination platform was established to roll out COVID-19 vaccines for children 5 to 17 years old. The pilot phase successfully vaccinated 11,342 children with two doses of the paediatric Pfizer vaccine.

15 UNVs were assigned to each county to coordinate and implement standardized community engagement activities, ensuring consistent and impactful social behaviour change (SBC) interventions throughout Liberia.

The SBC activities implemented demonstrate the power of a comprehensive approach that combines capacity building, community engagement, and strategic partnerships. By leveraging local resources and empowering communities, UNICEF has made significant strides in strengthening COVID-19 immunization coverage and improving overall health outcomes in Liberia. SBC continues to ensure that children in Liberia have access to essential health services during humanitarian crisis.

Despite the significant progress made, challenges remain. Sustaining the gains achieved requires continued collaboration, capacity building, and resource mobilization. Additionally, addressing emerging issues, such as vaccine hesitancy and disinformation, will be crucial in ensuring continued success.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

To better understand the emerging landscape, the social and cultural barriers and promote access to immunization and nutrition services, SBC and Immunization teams conducted an immunization perception study to determine the barriers to the uptake of immunization. The study engaged community members, to understand their beliefs, attitudes, and practices related to immunization and appropriate infant and young child feeding practices.

The study assessed the effectiveness of current communication channels in reaching different communities and identified gaps and concluded by developing culturally appropriate messages using local languages, proverbs, and storytelling to resonate with diverse communities, utilizing a combination of radio, mobile messaging, community outreaches, and door-to-door outreach to reach everyone.

SBC community engagement activities included partnering with community leaders, traditional healers, and religious leaders to disseminate information.

NON-FOOD ITEMS

SBC supported the development, printing, and dissemination of approximately 500,000 pieces of IEC/SBC materials (posters, flyers stickers etc.).

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

A year ago, the world grappled with the complexities of a global pandemic. In Liberia, the fight against COVID-19 required not just medical interventions, but also a strategic communication campaign to reach every corner of the country. Recognizing the diverse media landscape, UNICEF Liberia, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, adopted a multi-pronged approach, utilizing online platforms, radio, and traditional media to disseminate critical information and raise awareness.

Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram transformed into virtual town squares, buzzing with engaging content. Educational material, and personal stories resonated with thousands, demystifying COVID-19 and promoting preventive measures. Live Q&A sessions with medical experts addressed community concerns in real-time, fostering trust and encouraging responsible behaviour.

Recognizing that internet access was not ubiquitous, radio emerged as a powerful ally. Local dialects filled the airwaves, carrying vital messages to remote communities. Village elders, trusted voices passed down through generations, amplified these messages, ensuring no one was left behind in the fight against the virus.

Beyond facts and figures, personal stories became the heart of the campaign. Headlines like "UNICEF and Ministry of Health Near Completion of PSA Oxygen Plant in Palala" ignited hope for a future free from oxygen shortages. "UNICEF's Solar Direct Drive Vaccine Refrigerator Revolutionizes Immunization in Liberia" showcased innovative solutions for reaching children in the most remote areas.

Mothers like Matenneh Siryon ("A Mother's Journey to Protect Her Child"), Maa Musu's story and children like Little Josephine ("Little Josephine's Fight for Health and Hope: A Story of Resilience in Liberia") personified the struggles and triumphs of the Liberian people. Their voices resonated across communities, inspiring collective action, and unwavering commitment to combating the virus.

Strengthening Partnerships, Securing a Sustainable Future

The collaboration between UNICEF, the Ministry of Health, and dedicated UN (United Nations) Volunteers (UNVs) proved instrumental in this communication campaign. By leveraging diverse communication channels, addressing cultural nuances, and building trust with communities, they reached thousands with life-saving information.

- UNICEF and Ministry of Health Near Completion of PSA Oxygen Plant in Palala
https://www.facebook.com/Liberia.Unicef/posts/586503846944047?_cft_%5b0%5d=AZW5SyhKGjcDp9bP3HUxqFJPQgas9-6G5USgSmgsIWY3OJa_4X6xfFoXLHPtk5OgWw-Yo_zjAxV89JumaETJQSiPcyRmxZI_1-kX49in-oeQzhROblkUTGFY8ThLT7DL8fpeHXEvHsFSI1MbKJ1TOW&_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R
- UNICEF's Solar Direct Drive Vaccine Refrigerator Revolutionizes Immunization in Liberia
<https://www.unicef.org/liberia/stories/unicefs-solar-direct-drive-vaccine-refrigerator-revolutionizes-immunization-liberia>
- A Mother's Journey to Protect Her Child"
<https://www.unicef.org/liberia/stories/matenneh-siryon-mothers-journey-protect-her-child>
- Maa Musu's story
<https://www.unicef.org/liberia/stories/key-strategy-increasing-immunization-coverage-hard-reach-areas>
- Little Josephine's Fight for Health and Hope: A Story of Resilience in Liberia
<https://www.unicef.org/liberia/stories/little-josephines-fight-health-and-hope-story-resilience-liberia>

SENEGAL

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

In June 2023, Senegal experienced violent protests that disrupted learning and resulted in the arrest of more than 200 children. UNICEF supported the education sector to ensure continuity of learning as well as the follow up of children arrested or injured during the protests, and has worked with civil society partners to implement initiatives to prevent the participation of children in violent protests. This response was complicated by the lack of access to affected areas, political divisions and the proliferation of disinformation on social media. The situation in the near future remains uncertain with ongoing political tensions.

In August and September, more than 35,000 people were affected by flooding in several areas in the country. Considering the prevention of the risk of water related diseases, UNICEF supported the distribution of WASH non-food items, and the installation of innovative handwashing prototypes in health facilities and schools. UNICEF has also supported the National Hygiene Service for the sensitization of communities in the worst affected areas in Dakar, Diourbel (Touba), Kaolack, Kaffrine and Saint Louis.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

During the year 2023, UNICEF continued to focus its support on health system strengthening, particularly on logistics such as cold chain equipment, temperature monitoring and vaccine management. UNICEF also supported the extension of the central vaccine warehouse to reinforce storage capacity as well as the transportation and installation of five oxygen generators for health facilities to improve the production of oxygen for a better response to health emergencies. The oxygen plan development process has begun and will provide the country with a framework document for the management of medical oxygen. UNICEF also contributed to several limited outbreaks response (measles 329 cases, Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever 11 cases, dengue 310 cases) in infection prevention and control (IPC) and Risk Communication and Community Engagement.

NUTRITION

In 2023, UNICEF continued its support to the Government of Senegal in the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition. The capacities of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and CNDN were reinforced (SMART and IPC) and a country roadmap was elaborated. Technical assistance was provided with seven nutrition resource persons placed in the five most vulnerable regions and two at MoH central level. The community level treatment of children with SAM (Severe Acute Malnutrition) initiated during COVID-19 context in eight districts has been extended to three districts (Louga, Tambacounda and Diourbel) and the implementation of the regional roadmap to promote breastfeeding only in the first six months of life has begun with Diourbel region.

As of December 2023, a total of 5,365 children with SAM were treated and 23,578 children screened for acute malnutrition at health posts (community screening). It is to be noted that due to strikes in the health system, the overall level of reporting is very low (20 per cent). The curative use of vitamin A benefitted to 26,625 cases and 33,333 children received micronutrient powder for six months to prevent anemia.

CHILD PROTECTION

In the context of the June socio-political crisis, in collaboration with government and non-government partners as well as United Nations sister agencies, UNICEF monitored child protection issues. This allowed the identification of 216 arrested children (all boys) and the provision of specific psychosocial support by the AEMO (Ministry of Justice services responsible for child protection). This support included follow up visits. Together with the UNHCHR, UNICEF advocated with the Ministry of Justice for courts to consider their status as minors and promote alternative measures. Support was also provided to the Directorate of Judicial and Social Protection (DJSP) and District Child

Protection Committees to guarantee access to justice and accompaniment of arrested children by specialized educators from the AEMO, while care services for child victims of violence were provided.

At the community level, communication efforts were deployed to prevent the participation of children in violent demonstrations. In addition, reflection workshops on children involved in violent demonstrations were held with the justice sector and specialized educators from the DJSPs decentralized services.

EDUCATION

The socio-political crisis in June resulted in the closure of schools for several weeks (especially in Ziguinchor et Sédhiou), as well as the ransacking and destruction of schools, and physical and psychological violence against school children and teachers. To ensure the continuity of basic social services, UNICEF supported the Ziguinchor Education Inspectorate with the development and implementation of a contingency plan for the continuity of end-of-year exams, targeting 26 schools that were destroyed.

To strengthen the resilience of the education system, UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of National Education (MEN) in the development of a resilience plan, as well as the integration of media and information education modules. UNICEF has also supported the action of civil society organizations grouped around the Coalition des Organisations en Synergie pour la Défense de l'Education Publique (COSYDEP) in drawing up and implementing a rapid response plan, as well as a programme document for preparing a response in the event of future conflicts.

WASH

In 2023, UNICEF supported the Direction of Sanitation and the National Hygiene Service in the implementation of the Community Led Total Sanitation in 350 villages; as a result, 273 villages (78 per cent) have put an end to open-air defecation. Twenty heads of department have been trained in the extended ATPC programme. In partnership with the private sector (ICONS), 50 family latrines have been built in 10 ODF villages in the Medina Yoro Foula district.

In response to the August and September floods, UNICEF supported the establishment of 425 innovative hand-washing prototypes in health facilities and schools, the supply of 3,000 hygiene kits and the distribution of reusable sanitary towels to 3,000 out-of-school adolescents' girls. Forty hygiene and health workers and 1,840 local natural leaders (75 per cent women) were also trained, while 533,183 people (303,915 women, 229,268 men) benefitted from information on disease prevention measures (including the 176 201 people who benefitted from basic hygiene services during HAC implementation). One thousand water points were monitored.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

SBC's support has helped to strengthen the coordinating bodies for RCCE (Risk Communication and Community Engagement) and Health Promotion through the Technical Working Group at both national and regional levels. Through high-quality RCCE interventions, these coordination frameworks were able to ensure the containment of the Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever epidemic in 2023. The SBC's support has been decisive in boosting demand for vaccinations, thanks to the various partnerships established: the Programme Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) with three international NGOs (Word Vision, Catholic Relief Services and Plan International), medical health departments, community radio stations, women and youth associations. In all, nearly 589,000 people were reached by the awareness-raising messages, and 9,166 were involved in SBC activities.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

Avec le soutien d'Aliou Cissé et de l'UNICEF, les enfants de Bignona reprennent le chemin de l'école | UNICEF (20+) UNICEF Sénégal - Notre équipe WASH  a dirigé une formation... | Facebook

- Link <https://www.unicef.org/senegal/recits/avec-le-soutien-daliou-ciss%C3%A9-et-de-lunicef-les-enfants-de-bignona-reprennent-le-chemin-de>
- Dispositifs lavage mains innovants par UNICEF & Mastercard Foundation. - YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cJwUH0qslU>

SIERRA LEONE

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The political context was marked by the general elections in June 2023 which resulted in a second five-year term for the incumbent government, the suspension of participation by the opposition in parliament and local government, and the freezing of key bilateral and multilateral partnerships. The election period took place with some violent incidences. An Agreement for National Unity was signed in October, returning the opposition and restoring key partnerships.

A post-election and civil unrest risk was identified, and UNICEF Sierra Leone developed a preparedness plan which included prepositioning of essential stocks and support to child protection actors including the Sierra Leone Police Family Support Unit (FSU), Legal Aid Board and the Ministries of Gender and Social Welfare, to ensure children and women at risk of violence during unrest and demonstrations would be provided with timely assistance.

However, a failed coup attempt on 26 November 2023 and the ensuing trial of the allegedly informed former President, and other military officers and civilians, has increased tension in the country. The attempted coup d'état also involved opening up the central prisons and letting convicts out on the streets. This led to a very tense situation in the country, followed by a month-long curfew at night. A legal process is ongoing in the military court against the accused military and civilian alleged coup makers, including the previous President from the opposition party. This process affects the overall sense of security and stability in the country.

The socio-economic situation in Sierra Leone continued to affect the overall population. The bank of Sierra Leone monetary statements indicate that the annual inflation rate increased to 54 per cent in November 2023. Earlier in August, WFP indicated that food inflation had reached 63 per cent, driving more households below the poverty line. In April 2023, WFP reported that about 78 per cent of households were food insecure, and the situation has escalated since, leading to households' inability to meet basic needs and risking malnutrition, especially for children of poorer households. UNICEF continues to engage the Food and Nutrition Directorate in the planning, monitoring and treatment of malnutrition. A measles outbreak was reported in five districts with cumulated confirmed cases reaching 30 by March 2023, leading to mass vaccinations and sensitization across all districts in the country.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to conduct a measles reactive campaign in five districts in response to the measles outbreak in Tonkolili District in March 2023. A total of 410,156 children (9-59 months) were targeted out of which 250,150 received the measles vaccine. In addition, ten rounds of periodic intensification of routine immunization (PIRI) were conducted in all 16 districts, during which all routine antigens, including COVID-19 vaccines, were given to eligible people. COVID-19 vaccination has been fully integrated into the general routine immunization during this reporting period. These activities have contributed to the reduction of zero-dose children and more under-immunized children reached with life-saving antigens. Hard to reach communities are also covered during these exercises.

As part of health emergency preparedness, 966 community health workers were trained in infection prevention and control at health facilities, whilst screening of children and adolescent for HIV and AIDS especially in high emergency prone areas across the country continues as part of the normal health programmes.

In May 2023 the government, WHO and health sector partners including UNICEF launched the report of the Universal, Health and Preparedness Review (UHPR). UNICEF and WHO at the national level supported the UHPR, which harnesses one health approach to health security engaging all-of-government and whole-of-society approach, engaging ministries from across governments, as well as development partners and civil society, to advance the process. The UHPR examines best practices, gaps, and challenges, along with priorities in three areas of the health response: governance, systems and financing for health emergencies, and universal health coverage. Lessons from this review lead to the creation of the National Public Health Agency, a semi-autonomous body managing health emergency across the country in December 2023.

NUTRITION

UNICEF, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health with the respective District Health Management teams and partners, continued to support treatment of children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), with a particular focus on districts with high food insecurity and other potential emergencies risks such as flooding and mudslides. For 2023 the emergency preparedness plan, for nutrition, the country office targeted five districts; Bo, Kambia, Pujehun, Western area rural and Western Area urban. In the five targeted districts, 16,793 children 6-59 months were screened at community level for acute malnutrition and a total of 5,240 children with SAM were admitted for treatment (at a reporting rate of 85 per cent) between July-December 2023. The number of admissions has shown a 23.8 per cent decline compared to the same reporting period in 2022 (6,881). This can be associated to heavy flooding incidents that occurred in 2022 compared to less in 2023, and because of lower reporting rates (with full data anticipated by the end of January 2024, as December 2023 data is partial). Programme performance indicators are within targets and acceptable SHPERE standards with 92.6 per cent cured, 1.6 per cent death, 7.9 per cent defaulting and 0.4 per cent non-respondent rate. Vitamin A supplementation was received by 425,771 eligible children (6-59 months) in semester 1 (Jan-June 2023) and 378,004 in semester 2 (July to Dec 2023) in five targeted districts as per DHIS2.

CHILD PROTECTION

In 2023, UNICEF provided capacity strengthening and institutional support to social workforce and justice actors to enhance preparedness and response to child protection risks including arrests and detentions, which were particularly high during the election period. This support contributed to creation of protective and peaceful environment in collaboration with UNDP and other partners under the joint Peace Building Fund (PBF) project. In collaboration with the Legal Aid Board (LAB) civic and legal education campaigns tailored to children, adolescents, caregivers and community leaders were conducted targeting schools in most violence-prone hotspots in five local languages, greatly contributing to a peaceful conduct of elections. 227,185 students (75,852 girls, 151,333 boys) across 435 schools in 69 villages, and 89,271 community members (62,419 male, 26,852 female). Only one child under 19 was arrested and released immediately, with another 167 persons (39 female, 129 male) receiving prompt legal aid leading to release of 158 of those arrested.

Sierra Leone became the first country to roll out the Gender Based Violence Integrated Management System+ (GBVIMS+) in a government-led non-emergency context, while also tailoring the tools to capture election related GBV incidents. The introduction of the e-Referral Pathway, the digital service directory of GBV decentralized GBV services enabled more effective referrals. Strong synergies have been built with various providers through joint trainings to ensure harmonized referral and response to GBV and protection cases during the elections, including 116 Helpline, 323 Don Bosco Child Line, Office of national Security, Peace Commission Situation Room and Marie Stopes Hotline. The 116 Helpline received 20,000 calls in 2023 referring 40 cases of GBV for case management/GBV services.

With strengthened capacity for CP and GBV case management including for children affected by humanitarian situations, the Ministry of Social Welfare (MSW) was able to reach out to 2,465 children (1,461 girls, 1,004 boys), providing psychological first aid and other forms of psychosocial support services to 100 per cent of the children. 2,319 or 94 per cent of these children (1,373 girls, 946 boys) were supported between January and June 2023 while 146 or 6 per cent (88 girls, 58 boys) affected by a small-scale fire disaster in Western Area Urban were supported in October 2023. 397 children (214 girls, 183 boys) without parental care were placed in alternative care, while family tracing or mediation is still ongoing with families and communities.

EDUCATION

In 2023, UNICEF in consultation with Save The Children engaged the MBSSE to initiate discussion on the development of a national education emergency preparedness and response strategy. Although education has not been directly impacted by the humanitarian context as described above, one isolated incident occurred that required UNICEF assistance. Support was provided to the High Standards Primary and Secondary School in Freetown. UNICEF, with other sector partners, supported the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSE) through the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) with four early childhood development kits, eight School in-a-Box kits (exercise books, pens, pencils, rulers, etc.), catering for an estimated 300 pupils and 12 teachers affected by the fire disaster at the school in January 2023.

WASH

UNICEF, in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), supported 211 fire disaster-affected families (938 people) in Freetown with lifesaving WASH kits. Each of the 211 families received assorted WASH items, including 20L veronica buckets, plastic buckets (10L) with a lid for water collection and transportation, plastic cups (1L), three bars of multipurpose soap (250g each), one pack (50 pills) of household water purification tablets. Fifty sheets of tarpaulins for temporary latrines construction were also provided. An awareness session on the safe use of household water purification tablets, among other hygiene messages was conducted.

In partnership with the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation, GUMA Valley Water Company, and Community Action for the Welfare of Children (CAWeC), a twenty-thousand-liter water tank with multiple outlets was installed to deliver safe water to the affected population, in line with approved minimum standards for water supply. In October 2023, 18,868 Aqua tablets were supplied to the Ministry of Health for immediate distribution to Cholera high risk districts of Pujehun, Bonthe, Kambia, Kenema, Port Loko, Western Area rural and Western Area Urban.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

Through UNICEF Sierra Leone's website and social media accounts, updates about UNICEF's humanitarian response including COVID-19 and malaria immunization were shared regularly. Below are links to some of the stories and updates that were published.

Web stories

- Solar Powered Refrigerators Boost COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage | UNICEF Sierra Leone
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/solar-powered-refrigerators-boost-covid-19-vaccination-coverage>
- Community mobilisation expands COVID-19 vaccination in Sierra Leone | UNICEF Sierra Leone
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/community-mobilisation-expands-covid-19-vaccination-sierra-leone>
- Vaccinating girls against the Human Papillomavirus in Sierra Leone | UNICEF Sierra Leone
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/vaccinating-girls-against-human-papillomavirus-sierra-leone>
- Equipping Sierra Leone's health system for improved health service delivery | UNICEF Sierra Leone
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/equipping-sierra-leones-health-system-improved-health-service-delivery>
- Thousands of children under five in Moyamba District reached with critical life-saving interventions
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/thousands-children-under-five-moyamba-district-reached-critical-life-saving-interventions>
- Mobile Vaccination Teams continue to sensitise and vaccinate people in Bo District against COVID-19
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/mobile-vaccination-teams-continue-sensitise-and-vaccinate-people-bo-district-against-covid>
- Nourishing children in one of Sierra Leone's most food insecure districts | UNICEF Sierra Leone
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/nourishing-children-one-sierra-leones-most-food-insecure-districts>

- Community-Led Action boosts COVID-19 vaccination coverage in five districts in Sierra Leone | UNICEF
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/community-led-action-boosts-covid-19-vaccination-coverage-five-districts-sierra-leone>
- A new heartbeat: Transforming maternal care in Makeni Government Hospital | UNICEF Sierra Leone
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/new-heartbeat-transforming-maternal-care-makeni-government-hospital>
- Surge campaigns increase the rates of COVID-19 vaccinations in Sierra Leone | UNICEF Sierra Leone
<https://www.unicef.org/sierraleone/stories/surge-campaigns-increase-rates-covid-19-vaccinations-sierra-leone>

Social media updates

- Today, UNICEF handed over 18,868 packs of... - Unicef Sierra Leone | Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/unicefsierraleone/posts/pfbid02hrAi7DTeJnLKy5PbDJQLCdRPJTZePqgWhUPgZ3T7Y4XkADbshZEFg9gJzssggEdl>
- With support from the Japanese International... - Unicef Sierra Leone | Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/unicefsierraleone/posts/pfbid07kvJTuf5mLgPbHU1wikHVkwAMKTnYo2HFGXcBsxtMioi7DopCPQvHYwgQvBdis25l>
- UNICEF Representative in #SierraLeone, Dr.... - Unicef Sierra Leone | Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/unicefsierraleone/posts/pfbid0dhgsCvnydSAbQ9NQZRvTyfWbEHQsdR9w3PT3zzH2eXAdeF5Zx28NA61iFRh3sFixl>
- In 2022, JICA supported the procurement and... - Unicef Sierra Leone | Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/unicefsierraleone/posts/pfbid0YkgdCKMFsWyZ7g8YNGuPiuTWVw5wy3YajZQboVNYCoVrX9XmwrXgWERQ9NFvkvGUl>
- Ya Salay sits outside her home holding her... - Unicef Sierra Leone | Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/unicefsierraleone/posts/pfbid02Wayv7pkVtQVeCvb8mQ9XAeV6XbMhWVGrA9mDgf5eZWmg1J1ZoAzzKNtEd8XrYZjml>
- Nurse Isha and nurse Adamsay are two... - Unicef Sierra Leone | Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/unicefsierraleone/posts/pfbid05o1imHR3dyt236PHhuBnbv5mEITVamHdmBWnbgviviKLLKex2zY4MwNrWff6E1h2Ul>
- Following the fire that engulfed parts of... - Unicef Sierra Leone | Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/unicefsierraleone/posts/pfbid02Tvn3bf4j2cW9JmV1UnzkMyXn8bRQQXGcxzJchYenR31BnB12vRe4US4cMfboyAtvl>
- <https://twitter.com/UNICEFSL/status/1676244821831307271?s=20>
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- <https://twitter.com/UNICEFSL/status/1611336728060780549?s=20>
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<https://x.com/UNICEFSL/status/1710805594364428363?s=20>
- <https://x.com/UNICEFSL/status/1714734254767108409?s=20>
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- <https://x.com/UNICEFSL/status/1717869156903632909?s=20>
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<https://x.com/UNICEFSL/status/1735734236525613503?s=20>

THE GAMBIA

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

In 2023, The Gambia faced flash floods affecting a total of 51,328 people, including 13,317 children. The incident affected 3,387 households, while infrastructural damages were 7,239 houses and 3,414 WASH facilities were affected. Based on the lessons learned from the 2022 flooding, the Government put several preparedness measures in place, including the training of the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) staff and key stakeholders on emergency preparedness and response, the pre-positioning of emergency supplies and the finalization of the 2023 floods response plan with UNICEF support, which contributed to reduce the impact of the flooding on the affected families. The NDMA and the Gambian Red Cross led the country's response to the floods. In 2023, the measles rubella and the COVID-19 vaccinations remained a priority due to the low coverage and vaccine hesitancy. The situation of the severe acute malnutrition and gender-based violence also remained a priority in The Gambia, requiring urgent actions to respond to the needs of affected children and adolescents, in addition to systems strengthening. In addition Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) was a priority and UNICEF supported the training of doctors on lumbar puncture, as a procedure to firm or rule out a patient's suspected condition.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

HEALTH

Due to the low coverage of the measles rubella vaccination campaign in October 2022 (52 per cent), UNICEF and other partners supported a catch-up campaign in May 2023, targeting the lowest performing 12 districts. The campaign vaccinated 119,993 out of 132,517 children targeted (91 per cent), raising the national coverage for both phases to 88 per cent. The success of this campaign was largely as result of the robust social mobilization and community engagement supported by UNICEF. Similarly, to scale up COVID-19 vaccination, UNICEF supported two rounds of campaigns in 2023, vaccinating 231,457 people and thus increasing the national coverage from 22 to 28 per cent. UNICEF also supported the procurement and installation of 49 cold chain equipment in health facilities and a national Walk-in Cold Room, helping expand access to immunization services across The Gambia. In addition, 17 vehicles and 50 motorcycles were procured and distributed to strengthen the immunization programme and other integrated services of the Ministry of Health.

NUTRITION

UNICEF, in close collaboration with the National Nutrition Agency and the Ministry of Health, supported the treatment of 3,558 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) across the country by October 2023. This number represents a 17.1 per cent increase compared to the total number of 3,038 reported between January to October 2022. The increase can be attributed to the improved coverage in nutrition surveillance and early detection of acute malnutrition through the Family MUAC approach. The programme performance indicators are within targets and acceptable standards with 89.7 per cent cured, 0.6 per cent death and 8.3 per cent defaulting. UNICEF also supported the supplementation of 8,447 children (3,970 male, 4,477 female) with multiple micronutrient supplements in CRR-North and URR-North for children aged 6-23 months as these regions have the highest rates of anemia among children. The nutrition programme also supported incorporation of Vitamin A defaulter tracing into the EPI periodic intensification of routine immunization exercise. This has helped to increase the uptake of routine Vitamin A supplementation to reach 100,023 children aged 6-59 months in semester 1 and 60,312 children in semester 2 (as of October 2023).

CHILD PROTECTION

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare in strengthening the case management system through additional training to all and new social workers and the organization of coordination meetings. The case management system has known a clear improvement in its functioning and a data specialist has been added to the team by the Ministry. Between January and March 2023, the administrative data from the case management system reported that nine cases of child marriage (all girls) were stopped by actions of the social workers, following community mechanisms reporting, and 25 unaccompanied children (23 boys and 2 girls) were identified and reunited with their families, through the work of the social workers. Additionally, nine cases of rape (all girls between 14 and 17) received response services including medical and psychosocial support through the One Stop centres. Access to data remains a hurdle. Notwithstanding, UNICEF continues to provide technical and financial support for the management of cases and improvement of the case management system. UNICEF also supported the training of 30 social workers for the facilitation of access to child support of 60 children and the reintegration of 20 children on the move.

WASH

During the reporting period, UNICEF supported the provision of safe drinking water to 14 schools in North Bank, Central River, and Upper River regions, benefitting 10,590 people. The provision of these solar-powered water systems with tank capacity of 10,000 litres will also help improve hygiene practices in schools. Similarly, UNICEF provided five new toilet blocks and rehabilitated one toilet block in the North Bank and Central River regions, also 500 households supported with latrines benefitting 10,049 people. UNICEF also provided 192 fixed handwashing stations in schools and health facilities across the Gambia to help improve hand hygiene. As part of emergency preparedness, UNICEF supported the national Water Quality Laboratory with equipment and critical supplies such as a Chlorine Pool Tester, Turbidity Meter, Aqua Tabs, Bacteriology Field Test Kit, and the lab is now testing 250 water points and chlorinating 500 water points nationwide. Furthermore, UNICEF procured and prepositioned critical WASH supplies with The Gambia Red Cross Society for emergency relief for disaster affected families.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

UNICEF supported the training of 1,000 adolescents and youth on interpersonal communication and vaccination uptake on COVID-19 in the targeted geographic areas of West coast region, KMC and North Bank. Following the training, the adolescents and youth did five days of house-to-house visits in their communities, engaging 249,600 people and helping vaccinate 123,433 people, the largest number of people vaccinated against COVID-19 in a single campaign in the country. A total of 30 Majalis heads were engaged in an interactive session to discuss the importance of taking COVID-19 vaccines and what can be done to dispel the myths leading to vaccine hesitancy. 1,500 teachers and coordinators of the Majalis association were also engaged on Inter-personal communication and COVID-19 vaccination uptake. Following step down orientation, they conducted 1,250 sermons in their Majalis, communities and other religious gatherings reaching an estimated number of 219,150 people with messages on the importance of taking the COVID-19 vaccine, thus helping vaccinate more people and eventually increase the national vaccination coverage.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

In 2023, UNICEF supported government to strengthen its social protection system in preparation to adequately respond to humanitarian situations, focusing mostly on improving the social registry to ensure that no one is left behind and programmes target the right beneficiaries. In addition, UNICEF supported the setting up of a unified Grievance Redress Mechanism to respond to all forms of complaints, including gender-based violence, and social protection programmes. UNICEF also supported the organization of the biannual National Social Protection Conference; the meeting mobilized over 150 actors including government, non-government, and international stakeholders to convey and discuss social protection issues and make recommendations through an outcome statement committing government to improve social protection services in the Gambia. In addition, UNICEF supported vulnerable children's right to basic and secondary education through the provision of non-food items (learning materials, Braine etc.). Generally, the UNICEF support towards strengthening the social protection system is in anticipation to be able to respond to humanitarian situations and crisis.

NON-FOOD ITEMS

UNICEF provided learning materials to vulnerable children including children with disabilities in many regions of The Gambia. 15,350 children received learning materials (exercise books, school bags, pencils, rulers etc.). Additional 300 children with disabilities received Braille machines, Braille papers, and recording devices to support learning. Another 500 children received bicycles to support access to school.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

- Ministry of Health receives \$1.5 million in supplies from Japan and UNICEF
<https://shar.es/afV7Ou>
- Influencers supporting COVID-19 campaign -
<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGambia/status/1666364776941846528?s=20>
- UNICEF and Government of Japan hand over supplies to Gambia Government
<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGambia/status/1666020874867077120?s=20>
- MR campaign kicks off in The Gambia
<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGambia/status/1661002957067010049?s=20>
- MR campaign kicks off in The Gambia
<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGambia/status/1661002957067010049?s=20>
- UNICEF staff support MR campaign
<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGambia/status/1661697292896722944?s=20>
- UNICEF and partners kick off Mother MUAC training
https://twitter.com/nana_gambia/status/1659167763254878213?s=20
- COVID-19 advocacy video
<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGambia/status/1631228020961816576?s=20>
- The Gambia receives 149,760 COVID-19 vaccines from the Italian Government
<https://shar.es/afV79w>
- The Gambia receives more than 500,000 COVID-19 vaccines from Spain
<https://shar.es/afV79A>

TOGO

SITUATION OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

An estimated 773,000 people in Togo were in need of humanitarian assistance in 2023. Togo continues to face the consequences of the spillover of the Sahel crisis in the northern Savanes region, triggered by conflict in Burkina Faso. Attacks by non-state armed groups have created population displacements and have had a negative impact on the living conditions of the population, in a context of other persistent crises such as epidemics, floods and high rates of malnutrition, all impacted by climate challenges. Moreover, humanitarian access remains limited in the Savanes region.

According to the most recent published data, in July 2023, 63,546 people were displaced in Togo. Among them, 45,117 were externally displaced persons/refugees including 30,824 children (15,238 girls), and 18,429 were internally displaced including 9,030 children (4,425 girls). Displaced people are hosted in 167 localities in the Savanes region that have limited access to basic social services (drinking water, sanitation, primary health care, psychosocial support, education, non-food items), hindering a safe and dignified life. Children become particularly vulnerable to several risks, including separation from their families, violence, and exploitation

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

Throughout 2023, UNICEF's humanitarian action in Togo was aligned with national priorities, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2026, Country Programme Document 2019-2023, and the Core Commitments to Children. The response took into account the inclusiveness and resilience of basic social services (water, hygiene and sanitation, nutrition, health, education and child protection) and the strengthening of national and subnational capacities to anticipate, prepare for and respond to emergencies through active participation in humanitarian coordination activities and technical and financial support to state structures. UNICEF has made an effective contribution to humanitarian coordination through the key sectors which it leads (Wash, Education, Child protection), or co-leads (Nutrition) and participates actively in all sectoral actions and humanitarian coordination working groups. Throughout 2023, Togo was under a level 2 emergency activation procedure until December 2023, gaining organization-wide support to respond to the spillover of the Sahel crisis and thus worked with simplified procedures that are mandatory for emergencies at this level.

HEALTH

In 2023, 35,949 children under two (18,334 girls) were vaccinated against measles and rubella in the Savanes region against a target of 43,768. The country experienced an epidemic of meningitis with the notification of 137 cases treated including 12 deaths in the Savanes region. Togo reported a case of cholera which was treated in Grand Lomé region. Awareness raising on hygiene measures was carried out and households benefited from chlorine water treatment.

In the Savanes region, 549 community health workers (CHW) had been trained on Integrated management of childhood illness. As a result of UNICEF support to government, 1,148 CHW have implemented integrated child disease management. A total of 93,537 cases of malaria, 8,551 cases of pneumonia and 5,341 cases of diarrhoea were treated in children under 5 by CHW. In terms of Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission, 245 pregnant and lactating women were put under antiretroviral treatment.

NUTRITION

As part of the screening and treatment of acute malnutrition, 19,813 mothers of children under 5 were trained in acute malnutrition screening by the mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) measure, while 527 CHWs (51 women) were trained on treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). A total of 98 health facilities and 152 CHWs received equipment to enable the treatment of SAM. As a result, 4,439 children with SAM (2,263 girls) were admitted and treated in the Savanes region against a target of 4,687.

Regarding prevention, 524 CHWs (51 women) and 103 health workers have been trained in essential nutrition activities. Community dialogues were held in 823 communities to support Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and early detection of acute malnutrition through the family MUAC approach. These activities helped to raise awareness of 102,232 mothers of children aged 0-23 months on optimal IYCF practices against a target of 21,730. A total of 37,987 pregnant women received preventive iron/folic acid supplementation, thereby reducing the risk of anaemia and low birth weight.

CHILD PROTECTION

During the reporting period, 3,441 people (1,436 women/girls; 1,967 children) received psychosocial support in the Savanes region against a target of 10,840, while 703 protection actors (116 women) have been trained to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and to provide psychosocial care to children and families affected by the Sahel crisis to improve the quality of services. In 2023, 759,468 people (387,329 women) had access to a safe channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse against a target of 81,300.

In 2023, 33,321 people (19,426 women/girls; 8,323 children) benefited from a gender-based violence risk response, prevention and/or mitigation service against a target of 16,260. With UNICEF support to the government, 24,340 children in the Savanes region received a birth certificate.

This year, 243 child victims of violence (157 girls) benefited from individual psychosocial care in counseling centres, while 109 unaccompanied children (67 girls) were taken in by foster families.

EDUCATION

In 2023, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Primary, Secondary and Technical Education to respond to the spillover of the Sahel crisis in schools in communities hosting displaced students and refugees in the Savanes region. As a result, 33,333 children, including 16,312 girls, benefited from the distribution of school kits to enable quality education, while three new classrooms and boreholes were built in addition to the 13 scalable classrooms initiated in 2022, enabling 5,076 children (2,208 girls) to retain access to education.

UNICEF has supported schools with 1,000 desks and benches to accommodate displaced students. In addition, 230 primary and secondary teachers in the host schools received training in mental health and psychosocial support to enable them to identify and refer to community protection committees students who may be affected by shocks linked to violence perpetrated by non-state armed groups in their home communities.

WASH

In 2023, 30 boreholes were built and 31 rehabilitated, both equipped with solar hand pumps in the Savanes region. As a result, 122,000 displaced people and members of the host community (62,586 women) gained sustainable access to drinking water against a target of 81,360.

The implementation of the community-led total sanitation approach combined with the revolving fund approach enabled 212,080 people (108,161 women) to gain access to sanitation services against a target of 13,560.

Regarding intersectoriality, 279,363 people (143,313 women) benefited from hygiene kits enabling them to drink potable water, and to improve their hygiene practices to avoid associated diseases against a target of 54,240. Of these, 227,801 were affected by the spillover of the Sahel crisis, and 51,562 lived in areas most exposed to floods and cholera epidemics. Moreover, 14 schools in the Savanes region benefited from ecological and biogas latrines and 10 health establishments in gained access to sanitation.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC)

In 2023, Risk Communication and Community Engagement activities were carried out to promote the resilience of populations affected by the spillover of the Sahel crisis. This enabled the regional disaster risk reduction platform to organize 121 dialogues to promote social cohesion and demand of social services available as health, nutrition, WASH, child protection and education. Additionally, 823 community dialogues were held to promote child nutrition and health services.

These 944 dialogues reached 64,122 people (38,612 women/girls; 16,286 children; 699 people with disabilities). In addition, 232 young people/adolescents from the Savanes region have been trained in their role as agents of change for social cohesion and have been integrated into prefectural disaster risk reduction platforms, because of advocacy of UNICEF with the regional coordination platform. These activities constituted preparatory actions for the introduction of an accountability mechanism for affected populations in the Savanes region.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

In 2023, UNICEF prepared the implementation of humanitarian cash transfers (HCT) but this initiative was not finalized. UNICEF supported the pre-feasibility analysis of humanitarian cash transfers in the Savanes region. This analysis provided a mapping of current cash transfer interventions and the main financial service providers. In addition, the report highlighted the office's capacity needs in terms of financial and human resources to support the implementation of the humanitarian cash transfer programme.

Based on these findings, 14 UNICEF Togo staff members have benefited from capacity building in HCT, and the mapping will be used to identify HCT options to be considered and the financial service provider who could accompany the cash transfers.

NON-FOOD ITEMS

Through a partnership with the National Civil Protection Agency, a total of 4,067 households (around 20,335 people) in the Savanes region benefited from the distribution of NFI kits, including kitchen kits, mats and soap. These IDPs and refugees households were assisted following forced displacement due to the spillover of the Sahel crisis and associated conflicts.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

Link Of Publication Released By Media

- Full news
<https://full-news.tg/eau-assainissement-togo-japon-lunicef-ensemble-aux-cotes-de-sanleguidjimoni/>
- Savoir news
<https://www.savoirnews.net/blog/2023/12/21/savanes-plusieurs-ouvrages-deau-et-dassainissement-aux-communautes-de-sanleguidjimoni/>
- Togo Scoop : Des ouvrages d'eau et d'assainissement remis aux populations de Sanleguidjimoni
<https://www.toguscoop.tg/23471-2/>

- Jeune Togo: les populations de la Région des Savanes bénéficient des ouvrages WASH
<https://jeunetogo.tg/2023/12/24/togo-les-populations-de-la-region-des-savanes-beneficient-des-ouvrages-deau-et-dassainissement/>
- Atlantic Infos: Le Japon et l'UNICEF mettent à disposition de la région des Savanes d'infrastructure
<https://atlanticinfos.tg/2023/12/22/togo-le-japon-et-lunicef-mettent-a-disposition-de-la-region-des-savanes-dinfrastructures-deau-et-dassainissement/>
- Togo First
<https://www.togofirst.com/fr/social/2212-13161-le-japon-et-l-unicef-dotent-la-region-des-savanes-d-infrastructures-d-eau-et-d-assainissement>
- Lomé actu
<https://lomeactu.com/lunicef-et-le-japon-dotent-la-region-des-savanes-dinfrastructures/>

On Our Social Media

- LinkedIn
<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7145865240205852673>
- Twitter
https://twitter.com/Unicef_Togo/status/1740308582631874878?t=Be9oPOwJObH2ILKtT98ZyQ&s=19
- Facebook
https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid023WrvadYqV9wFUzLKyWoyxDf1HmgzHM1ZkSGRVCRPDKCBYZgpfJGpVrJirj2SWbLKI&id=100064933230458&mibextid=RtaFA8

HAC APPEALS AND SITREPS

- West and Central Africa Region Appeals
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/wca>
- West and Central Africa Region Situation Reports
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/wca/situation-reports>
- All Humanitarian Action for Children Appeals
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals>
- All Situation Reports
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/situation-reports>

NEXT SITREP: 31 JUNE 2024

ANNEX A - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Consolidated Programme Results

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	477,059	764,329	▲ 160%
Children vaccinated against polio	Total	-	237,652	216,185	▲ 91%
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	818,356	654,430	▲ 80%
Healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control	Total	-	11,676	2,330	▲ 20%
Children receiving the minimum set of vaccines	Total	-	1.2 million	448,314	▲ 36%
Healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with personal protective equipment	Total	-	4,616	2,118	▲ 46%
HIV/AIDS					
Pregnant and lactating women living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy	Total	-	6,101	5,409	▲ 89%
Adolescent girls and boys tested for HIV and received the result of the last test	Total	-	28,600	51,693	▲ 181%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	77,734	76,308	▲ 98%
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	269,802	1.6 million	▲ 583%
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	398,071	2 million	▲ 502%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	247,125	1 million	▲ 410%
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	-	67,514	196,232	▲ 291%
Pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation	Total	-	69,731	190,218	▲ 273%
Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	235,380	88,318	▲ 38%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	523,900	854,395	▲ 163%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	924,860	1.6 million	▲ 176%
Unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified	Total	-	5,075	901	▲ 18%
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	16,250	16,664	▲ 103%

Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	473,952	493,528	▲ 104%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	492,561	351,863	▲ 71%
Children and adolescents accessing skills development programmes	Total	-	4,900	6,313	▲ 129%
Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	Total	-	26,069	346	▲ 1%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	837,127	1.2 million	▲ 147%
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	234,117	184,957	▲ 79%
Children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	Total	-	70,250	68,363	▲ 97%
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	61,560	217,398	▲ 353%
Women and girls accessing menstrual hygiene management services	Total	-	41,700	9,750	▲ 23%
People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	1.6 million	1.1 million	▲ 71%
Social protection					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	16,060	-	0%
Households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF-technical assistance support	Total	-	18,700	42,000	▲ 225%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	5.4 million	4.3 million	▲ 81%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	1.6 million	1.6 million	▲ 95%
People with access to established accountability mechanisms	Total	-	559,188	423,783	▲ 76%
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers across sectors	Total	-	621,020	-	0%

Congo

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	6,181	9,500	▲ 154%
Children vaccinated against polio	Total	-	6,868	9,536	▲ 139%

Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	34,341	19,910	▲ 58%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	179	142	▲ 79%
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	6,868	1,977	▲ 29%
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	6,868	319	▲ 5%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	34,341	4,613	▲ 13%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	25,284	5,014	▲ 20%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	25,284	5,014	▲ 20%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	25,284	5,014	▲ 20%
Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	9,500	6,173	▲ 65%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	9,500	6,173	▲ 65%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	32,188	242,420	▲ 753%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	32,188	1.7 million	▲ 5227%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	32,188	9,163	▲ 28%
People with access to established accountability mechanisms	Total	-	32,188	1,608	▲ 5%

Benin

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	4,281	2,805	▲ 66%
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	10,014	12,356	▲ 123%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	7,463	13,499	▲ 181%

Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	50,000	34,531	▲ 69%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	9,700	35,708	▲ 368%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	300,000	723,005	▲ 241%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	600,000	838,393	▲ 140%
Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	8,000	8,506	▲ 106%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	8,000	132,851	▲ 1661%
Children and adolescents accessing skills development programmes	Total	-	300	350	▲ 117%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	50,000	8,720	▲ 17%
Children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	Total	-	30,000	59,236	▲ 197%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	500,000	554,606	▲ 111%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers across sectors	Total	-	20,000	-	0%
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	1.6 million	175,331	▲ 11%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	160,000	1,068	▲ 1%

Sierra Leone

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	10,000	259,639	▲ 2596%
Children vaccinated against polio	Total	-	10,000	4,942	▲ 49%
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	25,000	73,060	▲ 292%
Healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control	Total	-	6,785	1,593	▲ 23%
Children receiving the minimum set of vaccines	Total	-	25,000	250,378	▲ 1002%

Healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with personal protective equipment	Total	-	2,714	627	▲ 23%
HIV/AIDS					
Pregnant and lactating women living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy	Total	-	500	4,983	▲ 997%
Adolescent girls and boys tested for HIV and received the result of the last test	Total	-	500	13,735	▲ 2747%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	3,625	23,361	▲ 644%
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	3,625	1 million	▲ 28699%
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	3,625	1.2 million	▲ 34145%
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	-	3,625	-	0%
Pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation	Total	-	4,125	7,874	▲ 191%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	2,025	594,655	▲ 29366%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	5,000	2,465	▲ 49%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	5,000	-	0%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	5,000	5,000	▲ 100%
Unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified	Total	-	5,000	397	▲ 8%
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	5,000	2,199	▲ 44%
Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	25,000	300	▲ 1%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	25,000	250	▲ 1%
Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	Total	-	25,000	5	0%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	25,000	938	▲ 4%
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	25,000	938	▲ 4%
Women and girls accessing menstrual hygiene management services	Total	-	25,000	-	0%
Children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	Total	-	25,000	938	▲ 4%

People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	25,000	938	▲ 4%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	25,000	-	0%
Social protection					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
Households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF-technical assistance support	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers across sectors	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	25,000	-	0%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	25,000	-	0%
People with access to established accountability mechanisms	Total	-	25,000	-	0%

Cote d'Ivoire

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	114,299	94,786	▲ 83%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	2,786	3,984	▲ 143%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	2,786	22,905	▲ 822%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	10,000	6,302	▲ 63%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	48,420	8,059	▲ 17%
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	500	547	▲ 109%
Education					
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	209,150	34,857	▲ 17%
Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	Total	-	804	-	0%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	7,104	19,515	▲ 275%

Children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	Total	-	10,000	1,810	▲ 18%
People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	292,755	1,734	▲ 1%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	10,000	1,734	▲ 17%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	292,755	30,208	▲ 10%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	200	721	▲ 361%

Equatorial Guinea

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	67	56	▲ 84%
Children vaccinated against polio	Total	-	67	71	▲ 106%
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	233	614	▲ 264%
Healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control	Total	-	460	437	▲ 95%
Healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with personal protective equipment	Total	-	1,552	1,166	▲ 75%
HIV/AIDS					
Pregnant and lactating women living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy	Total	-	1,700	-	0%
Adolescent girls and boys tested for HIV and received the result of the last test	Total	-	6,000	-	0%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	67	71	▲ 106%
Pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation	Total	-	10,000	-	0%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	84,658	25,541	▲ 30%
Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	350	1,731	▲ 495%
Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	22,903	236,624	▲ 1033%
Children and adolescents accessing skills development programmes	Total	-	100	135	▲ 135%

Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	Total	-	55	126	▲ 229%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
Women and girls accessing menstrual hygiene management services	Total	-	500	750	▲ 150%
People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	950,000	900,000	▲ 95%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	70,770	60,000	▲ 85%
Social protection					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	310	-	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers across sectors	Total	-	20	-	0%
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	950,000	1.1 million	▲ 112%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	500,000	524,770	▲ 105%

The Gambia

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	90,170	119,993	▲ 133%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	4,000	-	0%
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	150,000	-	0%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	500	-	0%
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
Education					
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	10,000	-	0%
Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	Total	-	10	15	▲ 150%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	2,000	7,000	▲ 350%

People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	3,000	3,500	▲ 117%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	100,000	91,689	▲ 92%
Social protection					
Households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF-technical assistance support	Total	-	200	-	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	400,000	-	0%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	200,000	-	0%

Ghana

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	2,000	4,882	▲ 244%
Children vaccinated against polio	Total	-	2,000	5,548	▲ 277%
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	4,000	7,999	▲ 200%
Children receiving the minimum set of vaccines	Total	-	2,000	4,648	▲ 232%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	1,000	796	▲ 80%
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	17,600	10,823	▲ 61%
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	-	5,000	4,556	▲ 91%
Pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation	Total	-	17,000	17,040	▲ 100%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	79,344	91,687	▲ 116%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	141,356	37,705	▲ 27%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	141,356	75,908	▲ 54%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	141,356	1,443	▲ 1%
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	6,100	12,651	▲ 207%
Education					

Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	177,482	168,076	▲ 95%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	53,244	59,399	▲ 112%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	50,000	16,784	▲ 34%
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	5,000	880	▲ 18%
Children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	Total	-	3,000	6,101	▲ 203%
People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	90,000	24,458	▲ 27%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	2,500	550	▲ 22%
Social protection					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	10,000	-	0%
Households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF-technical assistance support	Total	-	1,000	42,000	▲ 4200%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	90,000	595,233	▲ 661%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	50,000	548,000	▲ 1096%
People with access to established accountability mechanisms	Total	-	2,000	6,185	▲ 309%

Guinea Bissau

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	19,878	24,404	▲ 123%
Children vaccinated against polio	Total	-	32,302	37,885	▲ 117%
Healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control	Total	-	4,081	-	0%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	1,094	-	0%
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	1,650	-	0%
Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	35,000	-	0%

Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	23,000	-	0%
Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	108,667	-	0%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	108,667	-	0%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	12,653	-	0%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	21,429	-	0%
Social protection					
Households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF-technical assistance support	Total	-	10,500	-	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	140,000	-	0%

Liberia

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	186,415	179,859	▲ 96%
Children vaccinated against polio	Total	-	186,415	158,203	▲ 85%
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	744,768	540,491	▲ 73%
Healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control	Total	-	350	300	▲ 86%
Children receiving the minimum set of vaccines	Total	-	1.2 million	193,288	▲ 16%
Healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with personal protective equipment	Total	-	350	325	▲ 93%
HIV/AIDS					
Pregnant and lactating women living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy	Total	-	3,500	181	▲ 5%
Adolescent girls and boys tested for HIV and received the result of the last test	Total	-	22,100	37,958	▲ 172%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	17,900	22,061	▲ 123%
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	207,592	505,958	▲ 244%

Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	148,248	612,289	▲ 413%
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	-	43,100	158,343	▲ 367%
Pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation	Total	-	19,291	127,317	▲ 660%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	12,504	247,402	▲ 1979%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	7,650	2,254	▲ 29%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	3,000	11,045	▲ 368%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	8,000	11,045	▲ 138%
Unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified	Total	-	75	504	▲ 672%
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	3,650	1,267	▲ 35%
Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	120,000	73,849	▲ 62%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	60,000	85,000	▲ 142%
Children and adolescents accessing skills development programmes	Total	-	4,500	5,828	▲ 130%
Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	Total	-	200	200	▲ 100%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	6,000	10,000	▲ 167%
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	15,000	-	0%
Women and girls accessing menstrual hygiene management services	Total	-	1,200	-	0%
Children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	Total	-	2,250	278	▲ 12%
People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	4,600	1,642	▲ 36%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers across sectors	Total	-	600,000	-	0%
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	1 million	800,000	▲ 80%

People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	500,000	415,990	▲ 83%
People with access to established accountability mechanisms	Total	-	500,000	415,990	▲ 83%

Senegal

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	35,000	8,026	▲ 23%
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	50,000	23,578	▲ 47%
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	-	15,789	33,333	▲ 211%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	31,467	26,625	▲ 85%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	200	-	0%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	15,000	-	0%
Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
Women and girls accessing menstrual hygiene management services	Total	-	15,000	9,000	▲ 60%
People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	200,000	176,201	▲ 88%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	20,000	3,000	▲ 15%
Social protection					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	2,500	-	0%
Households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF-technical assistance support	Total	-	6,000	-	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	1 million	-	0%
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	5,000	-	0%

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	43,768	68,405	▲ 156%
HIV/AIDS					
Pregnant and lactating women living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy	Total	-	401	245	▲ 61%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	4,687	4,439	▲ 95%
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	21,730	102,232	▲ 470%
Pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation	Total	-	19,315	37,987	▲ 197%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	10,840	3,441	▲ 32%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	16,260	33,121	▲ 204%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	81,300	759,468	▲ 934%
Education					
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	1,400	-	0%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	8,000	33,333	▲ 417%
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	81,360	122,000	▲ 150%
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	13,560	212,080	▲ 1564%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	54,240	279,363	▲ 515%
Social protection					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	2,250	-	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People who participate in engagement actions	Total	-	34,650	64,122	▲ 185%

*Progress in the reporting period 1 January to 31 December 2023

ANNEX B — FUNDING STATUS

Consolidated funding by sector

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Nutrition	13,646,936	4,226,243	746,448	1,378,508	7,295,737	53%
Health and HIV/AIDS	10,288,710	12,345,416	980,122	1,963,490	-	0%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	4,710,738	1,183,856	310,357	32,600	3,183,925	68%
Education	10,074,814	345,963	5,566,356	1,549,518	2,612,977	26%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	20,673,228	5,716,319	163,300	381,882	14,411,727	70%
Social protection	9,639,625	-	-	14,700	9,624,925	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	6,507,667	3,490,717	266,787	2,239,309	510,854	8%
Regional Office Technical Capacity	4,258,250	2,664,706	-	2,090,275	-	0%
Total	79,799,968	29,973,220	8,033,370	9,650,282	32,143,096	40%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Benin

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health and HIV/AIDS	531,927	1,130,455	-	1,288,973	-	0%
Nutrition	2,504,000	1,201,414	-	-	1,302,586	52%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	1,000,000	187,671	-	4,848	807,481	81%
Education	3,738,600	50,270	4,465,514	1,128,139	-	0%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	2,283,689	739,095	-	282,079	1,262,515	55%
Social protection	1,500,000	-	-	-	1,500,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	600,000	110,410	-	-	489,590	82%
Total	12,158,216	3,419,315	4,465,514	2,704,039	1,569,348	13%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Cote d'Ivoire

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	525,625	689,157	-	-	-	0%
Nutrition	365,438	-	164,628	-	200,810	55%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	299,125	-	104,771	-	194,354	65%
Education	1,473,688	-	702,263	159,965	611,460	41%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	3,299,375	287,280	163,300	-	2,848,795	86%
Social protection	4,040,625	-	-	-	4,040,625	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	1,500,000	1,095,875	266,787	54,035	83,303	6%
Total	11,503,876	2,072,312	1,401,749	214,000	7,815,815	68%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Ghana

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap		
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)	
Health	990,620	-	160,020	-	830,600	84%	
Nutrition	1,978,624	-	43	-	1,978,581	100%	
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	1,350,000	26,190	25,969	-	1,297,841	96%	
Education	1,457,526	-	51,446	-	1,406,080	96%	
Water, sanitation and hygiene	2,515,000	-	89,851	-	2,425,149	96%	
Social protection	650,000	-	14,700.34	-	635,299.66	98%	
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	1,261,000	78,000	474,507	-	708,493	56%	
Total	10,202,770	104,190	816,536.3	3,400,000,001	0	9,282,043.66	91%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Guinea Bissau

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	145,276	-	-	-	145,276	100%
Nutrition	98,566	-	-	-	98,566	100%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	80,000	-	-	-	80,000	100%
Education	133,000	-	-	-	133,000	100%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	56,483	-	-	-	56,483	100%
Social protection	330,000	-	-	-	330,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	166,667	-	-	-	166,667	100%
Total	1,009,992	0	0	0	1,009,992	100%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Equatorial Guinea

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health and HIV/AIDS	1,500,000	1,777,507	980,122	-	-	0%
Nutrition	70,000	-	20,000	-	50,000	71%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	250,000	-	200,000	-	50,000	20%
Education	270,000	143,369	398,579	-	-	0%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	230,000	-	-	-	230,000	100%
Social protection	450,000	-	-	-	450,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	450,000	341,815	-	-	108,185	24%
Total	3,220,000	2,262,691	1,598,701	0	-641,392	-20%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

The Gambia

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	50,000	87,488	-	55,356	-	0%
Nutrition	400,000	-	-	7,918	392,082	98%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	100%
Education	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	100%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	400,000	7,216	-	8,876	383,908	96%
Social protection	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	100%
Total	1,200,000	94,704	0	72,150	1,033,146	86%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Liberia

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health and HIV/AIDS	3,926,000	2,113,495	-	-	1,812,505	46%
Nutrition	4,500,000	1,382,213	-	-	3,117,787	69%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	400,000	114,879	-	-	285,121	71%
Education	400,000	-	-	-	400,000	100%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	4,032,000	1,019,924	-	-	3,012,076	75%
Social protection	1,000,000	-	-	-	1,000,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	400,000	1,087,724	-	-	-	0%
Total	14,658,000	5,718,235	0	0	8,939,765	61%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Senegal

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Nutrition	1,095,000	-	561,820	-	533,180	49%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	100,000	-	5,586	-	94,414	94%
Education	20,000	-	-	-	20,000	100%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	535,000	-	-	-	535,000	100%
Social protection	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	200,000	64,802	-	-	135,198	68%
Total	2,000,000	64,802	567,406	0	1,367,792	68%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Sierra Leone

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health and HIV/AIDS	130,000	5,546,539	-	-	-	0%
Nutrition	800,000	127,665	-	1,370,547	-	0%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	400,000	-	-	1,783	398,217	100%
Education	650,000	-	-	-	650,000	100%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	500,000	274,286	-	1,075	224,639	45%
Social protection	500,000	-	-	-	500,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	1,000,000	-	-	-	1,000,000	100%
Total	3,980,000	5,948,490	0	1,373,405	-3,341,895	-84%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

Togo

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health and HIV/AIDS	1,410,000	1,000,774	-	-	409,226	29%
Nutrition	800,000	819,756	-	-	-	0%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	600,000	855,117	-	-	-	0%
Education	1,492,000	152,324	-	-	1,339,676	90%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	5,500,000	3,388,518	-	-	2,111,482	38%
Social protection	1,019,000	-	-	-	1,019,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	780,000	712,092	-	318,089	-	0%
Total	11,601,000	6,928,581	0	318,089	4,354,330	38%

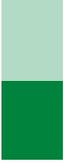
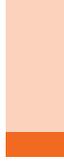
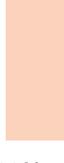
*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

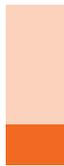
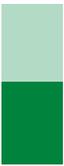
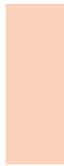
Congo

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	1,079,262	-	-	459,141	620,121	57%
Nutrition	1,035,308	695,195	-	-	340,113	33%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	131,613	-	-	-	131,613	100%
Education	340,000	-	-	209,969	130,031	38%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	1,321,681	-	-	-	1,321,681	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	100,000	-	-	1,392,678	-	0%
Total	4,007,864	695,195	0	2,061,788	1,250,881	31%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

ANNEX C — FUNDING GAP BY OFFICE AND SECTOR

% GAP (APPEAL SECTOR)				
% GAP (TOTAL)	NUTRITION	CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE, AND PSEA	EDUCATION	WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE
BENIN  13% gap \$1.6M	 52% gap \$2.5M	 81% gap \$1M	 -51% gap \$3.7M	 55% gap \$2.3M
COTE D'IVOIRE  68% gap \$7.8M	 55% gap \$365.4K	 65% gap \$299.1K	 41% gap \$1.5M	 86% gap \$3.3M
GHANA  91% gap \$9.3M	 100% gap \$2M	 96% gap \$1.4M	 96% gap \$1.5M	 96% gap \$2.5M
GUINEA BISSAU  100% gap \$1M	 100% gap \$98.6K	 100% gap \$80K	 100% gap \$133K	 100% gap \$56.5K
EQUATORIAL GUINEA  -20% gap \$-641.4K	 71% gap \$70K	 20% gap \$250K	 -101% gap \$270K	 100% gap \$230K
THE GAMBIA  86% gap \$1M	 98% gap \$400K	 100% gap \$100K	 100% gap \$100K	 96% gap \$400K

<p>LIBERIA</p>  <p>61% gap \$8.9M</p>	 <p>69% gap \$4.5M</p>	 <p>71% gap \$400K</p>	 <p>100% gap \$400K</p>	 <p>75% gap \$4M</p>
<p>SENEGAL</p>  <p>68% gap \$1.4M</p>	 <p>49% gap \$1.1M</p>	 <p>94% gap \$100K</p>	 <p>100% gap \$20K</p>	 <p>100% gap \$535K</p>
<p>SIERRA LEONE</p>  <p>-84% gap \$-3.3M</p>	 <p>-87% gap \$800K</p>	 <p>100% gap \$400K</p>	 <p>100% gap \$650K</p>	 <p>45% gap \$500K</p>
<p>TOGO</p>  <p>38% gap \$4.4M</p>	 <p>-2% gap \$800K</p>	 <p>-43% gap \$600K</p>	 <p>90% gap \$1.5M</p>	 <p>38% gap \$5.5M</p>
<p>CONGO</p>  <p>31% gap \$1.3M</p>	 <p>33% gap \$1M</p>	 <p>100% gap \$131.6K</p>	 <p>38% gap \$340K</p>	 <p>100% gap \$1.3M</p>

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ENDNOTES

1. <https://statics.teams.cdn.office.net/evergreen-assets/safelinks/1/atp-safelinks.html>
2. <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/105975>
3. <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/106296>
4. UNHCR: <https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/sudansituation>
5. Data from HCR for Refugees and for PDI from OIM via « Displaced Tracking Matrix/DTM)
6. The kit contains essential household items to meet the most urgent needs of these populations (four pairs of children's shoes, two pairs of adult shoes, four sets of children's clothes, three sets of bedding, four blankets, six bath towels, one 7L pot and one 5L pot, five metallic plates, one 1L plastic cup, five 0.5L plastic cups, one stainless steel ladle, one perforated stainless steel ladle, one 20L washing basin, one knife) with complementary games for children (one plastic car, one doll, one deck of cards, one package of games, one soccer ball).
7. Activités de surveillance des maladies évitables par la vaccination (MEV) en Côte d'Ivoire, DC-PEV, Semaine 49, 2023
8. 5 Key Messages Packages, 6 Special Radio programs, 1 Radio and TV Spot, 51,000 brochures, 150 banners, and 500 posters