

## Humanitarian Situation Report No.1

Reporting Period  
1 January to  
31 March 2024



Children attending class at temporary space in the village of Nioronigue (Tchologo Region)

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## Côte d'Ivoire

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The spillover effects of insecurity and fragility in the Sahel continue to affect Côte d'Ivoire. From January to March 2024, **9,636 new people** crossed the border from Burkina to Côte d'Ivoire seeking asylum. By 17 March 2024, UNHCR reported that 54,215 people—57 per cent are children, the majority under 12 years of age—had fled from Burkina Faso into northern areas of Côte d'Ivoire.
- During the reporting period, UNICEF ensured the continuity of education services for 2,341 children (including more than 1,409 asylum seekers) in Tchologo and Bounkani regions through 48 temporary learning spaces; treated 878 children under five for severe acute malnutrition (SAM); provided access to safe drinking water for 2,000 people; and provided psychosocial support to 493 children.



**294,930**  
Children in need of humanitarian assistance<sup>1</sup>



**600,000**  
People in need of humanitarian assistance<sup>2</sup>

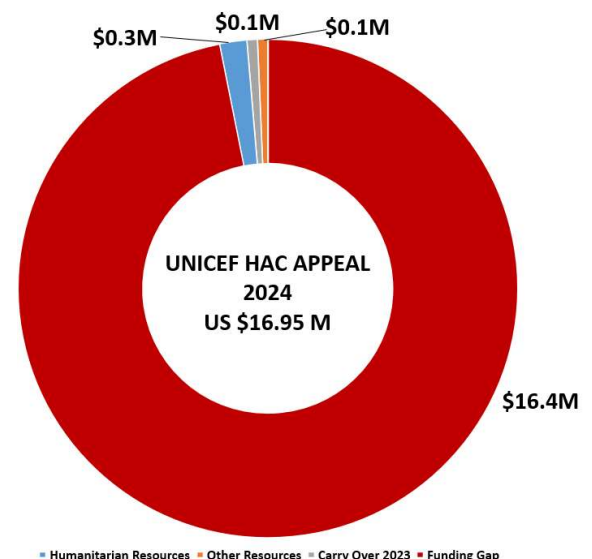


**54,215**  
asylum seekers<sup>3</sup>

### UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS \*

WASH	People with safewater	3%
	Funding status	0%
Education	Children in school	18%
	Funding status	1%
Child protection	Psychosocial access	1%
	Funding status	0%
Nutrition	Severe wasting admission	42%
	Funding status	7%
Health	Measles vaccination	0%
	Funding status	0%

### FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$) \*\*



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

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

## Funding overview and partnerships

In line with the 2024 UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal, the total amount of funding received by the end of March 2024 was US\$ 0.53 million (3 per cent of the US\$ 16.95 million required). Funds used to respond to the Sahel crisis included: USAID, US National Committee (NatCom) and UNICEF regular resources.

Additional funding for this crisis will enable UNICEF to provide safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, conduct social and behavioural change (SBC) activities, reunify children with their families, prevent malnutrition and cure children suffering from SAM, procure and distribute NFI kits, and ensure access to healthcare, including for prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, as well as to education services for refugees/asylum seekers and host populations.

UNICEF is grateful to all partners for their continued support and collaboration and appeals for further assistance for the refugees/asylum seekers and vulnerable children in host populations in the northern regions of Côte d'Ivoire.

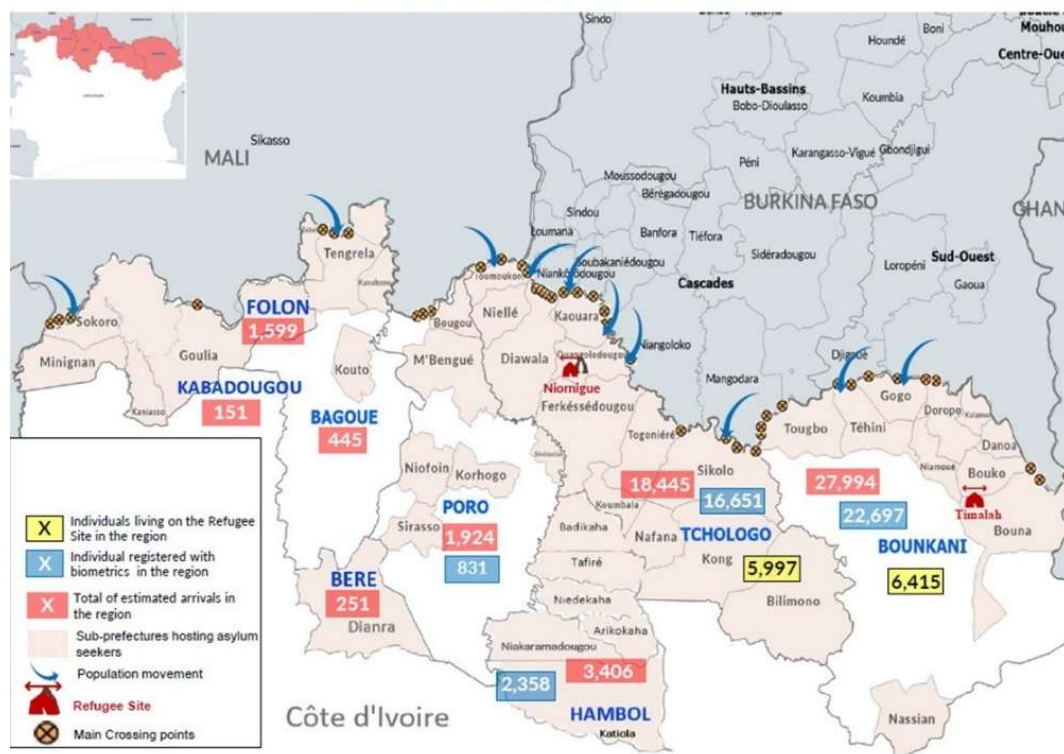
## Situation overview and humanitarian needs

Côte d'Ivoire continues to be impacted by the ongoing conflicts in the Sahel. The deterioration of the security situation in Burkina Faso led to an increase in the number of asylum seekers in 2023. This increase has continued since the beginning of 2024. From January to March 2024, **9,636 new people** crossed the border from Burkina Faso to Côte d'Ivoire, seeking asylum. As of March 2024, Côte d'Ivoire hosted an estimated **54,215** asylum-seekers from Burkina Faso, 45,900 of whom were registered. The majority of forcibly displaced persons in northern Côte d'Ivoire are women and girls (55%), while 31% (around 17,000) are school-age children, and more than 20% are under the age of five.

In these human mobility contexts, children are particularly vulnerable and exposed to risks that require professional case management support (e.g. unaccompanied and separated children, child exposed to forced marriage, unregistered children/without birth certificate) and any form of violence and abuse and exploitation. Multi-sectoral assessments also revealed urgent needs in nutrition and water, hygiene and sanitation, as well as education.

Communities in the Bounkani (north-east) and Tchologo (north) regions of Côte d'Ivoire face challenges in terms of access to basic social services and have significantly lower economic development than the rest of the country. In these regions where the basic social services are scarce, further reductions in access would only exacerbate structural inequalities and community tensions.

MAP OF RECEPTION AREAS FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS



(\* The data is exclusively that of biometrically registered persons.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

source: UNHCR

## Summary analysis of programme response

### Health-HIV

During the first quarter of 2024, UNICEF and its partner CIAUD provided support to 17 health centers of the Tchologo and Bounkani Regional Health Directorates to carry out advanced strategies to bring health services closer to the populations. With the support of UNICEF, 46 advanced strategies instances reached 2,000 people, including 857 children. One of the health services offered as part of advanced strategies is vaccination. Data are currently being compiled. These data will be available for the next situation report.

UNICEF and its partner CIAUD also provided 5 referral hospitals in the 2 regions with laboratory inputs to carry out biological examinations free of charge. A total of 1,058 people (host communities and asylum seekers) benefited from these free biological analyses.

With the aim of better planning health assistance in asylum seeker relocation sites, UNICEF and its partner have carried out a census of asylum seekers in the Timalah site (Bounkani), with the aim of identifying potential targets in need of health services. The census focused on children and women of childbearing age, as well as an assessment of their health service coverage (vaccination, prenatal consultation, etc.).

The data collected provided a clear picture of the children and women in need of health services (vaccination, nutritional care, pregnancy monitoring, etc.). The same exercise will be carried out at the Nironigué site (Tchologo) during quarter 2 of 2024.

### Nutrition

Through its regular resources, UNICEF and its partners have continued to support the National Nutrition Programme (NNP) efforts to strengthen access to essential nutrition interventions including the delivery of essential nutritional inputs.

UNICEF, in collaboration with the National Nutrition Council, and local NGO ARK has supported the establishment of four community nutrition centres (FRANC<sup>4</sup>) at the transit sites for refugees/asylum seekers and host communities in Nironigué (Tchologo) and Timalah (Bounkani). The aim is to further prevent malnutrition and monitor the nutrition situation in these areas.

During the first quarter of 2024, UNICEF and its partner CIAUD have also provided support to 17 health centers of the Tchologo and Bounkani Regional Health Directorates to carry out advanced strategies to ensure the early detection of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) including in hard-to-reach communities. As a result, from January to February 2024, 878 severely malnourished children under-five were admitted to health centres for treatment and 26,800 were supplemented with vitamin A.

### Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

Thanks to US NatCom funds, UNICEF and its partners have continued to strengthen community child protection mechanisms. During this first quarter, with UNICEF support, the capacities of 132 members of 8 child protection committees were strengthened by social workers from the 2 regions (Bounkani and Tchologo). The aim of this capacity-building is to enable the committees to conduct community awareness-raising campaigns on child protection issues and to refer protection cases to the social services. In November 2023, UNICEF supported the establishment of a child-friendly space at the Timalah transit site, to provide psychosocial support for the children. During the first quarter of 2024, 493 children (152 girls and 341 boys) aged between 4 and 10, attending this space, benefited from a recreational activity and psychosocial support.

During the first quarter of 2024, in the Timalah transit site, 730 people (318 women; 218 men; 194 children) were reached with awareness-raising on topics related to child violence against children, with support from the social workers.

### Education

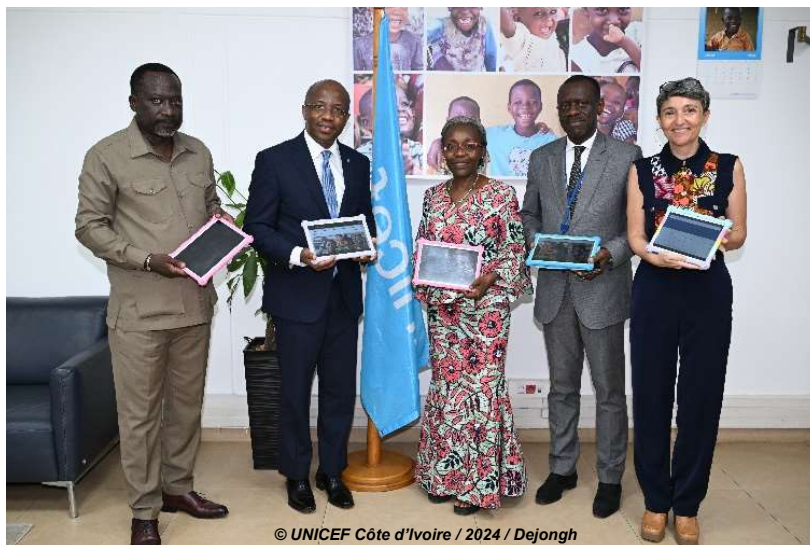
UNICEF continued its support to the Ministry of Education to provide a basic level of education to the children of asylum seekers, through the creation of temporary learning spaces in the regions of Tchologo (Ouangolodougou, Diawala) and Bounkani (Bouna, Doropo, Tehini). During the first quarter of 2024, UNICEF supported the Ministry of National Education to ensure monitoring of educational activities and the continued training of volunteer teachers.

From January to February 2024, to increase the capacity of learning spaces and accommodate more children, 9 new temporary learning spaces/classrooms were built in the relocation sites, bringing the number of temporary learning spaces/classrooms to 24 compared to 15 in the last quarter of 2023. These learning spaces made it possible to register 545 new child applicants, who received individual learning materials. In March 2024, 1,409 asylum-seeking children attended the temporary learning spaces/classrooms set up with the support of UNICEF. In addition, 932 out-of-school children (463 girls), from the host

community benefited from alternative education offers. As of March 2024, a total of 2,341 children have access to the learning spaces.

In 2023, UNICEF was allocated US\$150,000 in thematic emergency funding to develop an innovative model for ensuring continuity of education in case of school closure. UNICEF worked closely with the Ministry of National 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. In February 2024, the prototype was received during a visit by the Regional Director West and Central Africa (WCAR). The equipment could be deployed in asylum seeker reception areas from the next quarter of 2024.

As part of the coordination and preparation for response to emergency situations, the Ministry of National Education signed a decree establishing the creation, responsibilities, organization and operation of the Education Sector Group in Emergency Situations (GSESU). UNICEF also provided technical and financial support to the Ministry of National Education for the development of a guide on the "safe school" concept.



## Water, sanitation and hygiene

Through its regular resources, UNICEF supported the replacement of obsolete human-powered pumps in 5 villages in the Bounkani region, which allowed improved access to drinking water for around 2,000 people (514 men, 503 women, 490 girls and 493 boys).

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

As part of the coordination of the emergency response, UNICEF supported the organization of one meeting of the sub-national WASH cluster (in the north).

As part of the resilience programme, 3 obsolete human-powered pumps were replaced in 3 villages, and 4 new positive boreholes were drilled in 4 villages, on which mini-water-supply systems with solar systems will be installed. In addition, 11 new positive boreholes have been drilled in 11 schools in the Bounkani region. These 11 boreholes will be equipped with human-powered pumps in the coming months.

In terms of sanitation, 8 latrine blocks are under construction in 8 health centers, with a view to improving access to sanitation for patients in these health centers.

## Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP, Adolescents and Youth)

Based on the research conducted in 2023 on SBC and AAP realities in the refugee/asylum seekers crisis affected regions of Tchologo and Bounkani, UNICEF started a partnership with a national NGO in order to implement SBC and AAP interventions in 70 localities of these two northern regions, with the objectives to support:

- the establishment of local committees for the promotion of essential social services, children's rights and peaceful behaviours,
- the establishment of community data collection mechanisms,
- the organization of community co-creation sessions for demand promotion,
- the mobilization and communication initiatives via local media,
- the encouragement of community in giving appropriate feedback on quality of services and expressing their concerns and ideas.

As part of the resilience programme, UNICEF started the training of 50 partners on Human-Center Design cocreation approach, especially to accompany the zero-dose vaccination strategy. In addition, UNICEF also approached 10 proximity radios in Tchologo which have expressed their engagement to utilize local media as tools for effective interaction between service providers and communities, for better community resilience and to improve adoption of peaceful coexistence and child rights related behaviours.

To contribute to social cohesion between asylum seekers and host communities, UNICEF supported the organization of five (5) intergenerational dialogues in 5 cross-border villages. During this activity, 297 participants actively contributed to the dialogue including 120 adolescents and young girls.

Through the support of UNICEF, U-Reporters from North-Eastern regions led 9 youth community actions U-Action to contribute to promote social cohesion and peace: these included training of over 200 adolescents and youth including 64% of young girls on community engagement, leadership for peace. During the reporting period, 1,468 adolescents and young people contributed to the dissemination of messages of peace and social cohesion.

## Social inclusion

At the onset of the increased refugee influx in Bounkani and Tchologo regions, UNICEF triggered the inclusion of social protection in the response plan and the revival of the cash working group. A minimum expenditure basket was discussed to ensure harmonization of cash intervention parameters by different partners. UNICEF is leading the work with other partners to finalize the non-food items basket component of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB).

As chair of the social protection working group, previously UNICEF ensured that the new social protection strategy includes elements of shock responsiveness, including a proposed social protection fund capable of ensuring expansion of existing programmes to respond to crises. UNICEF supported the development of a new social protection strategy, ensuring components of shock response are included for a more adaptive social protection system.

In addition, to ensure expansion of the government cash transfer programme which currently targets about 2 million Ivorians, UNICEF led discussions with the Social Safety Nets Programme Management Unit to advocate for an increase in the number of beneficiaries in host communities.

To ensure stronger community resilience and improve social cohesion, 4 communes in Bounkani and Tchologo regions have been supported to implement or scale up a participatory budgeting initiative, focusing on youth and adolescents. More than 80 youth in these communes have been engaged in discussions with local authorities and will have increased capacity in advocacy for inclusion of community and children's priorities in local budgets.

## Humanitarian leadership, coordination and strategy

National coordination of the response to the influx of populations from neighbouring countries is led at the central level by the National Security Council, while prefects of the two affected regions are responsible for regional coordination. The prefects have full decision-making authority at the regional level, working with decentralized technical ministries.

Since August 2023 a UN 'Joint Regional Response Plan' for 2024 for four coastal countries (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo) has been developed, led by UNHCR. In Côte d'Ivoire, this interagency plan, with a budget of US\$ 50.9 million, aims to cover the needs of 85,000 refugees/asylum seekers and 75,000 host communities.

UNICEF supports the existing coordination mechanism and helped set up sectoral groups (education, WASH, health-nutrition, child protection) in the two affected regions. UNICEF has also equipped 4 prefectures (Ferké, Ouangolodougou, Bouna and Téhini) with videoconferencing equipment to support local intersectoral coordination, led by the prefects.

The 10 per cent emergency response clause is systematically included in all relevant programme cooperation agreements. Since November 2023, the partnership with another NGO (CIAUD) is active and focusing on a multi-sectoral response (WASH, nutrition, health, child protection) in the two regions affected by the Sahel crisis spill-over.

In the field, sectoral working groups led by line ministries and co-led by sectoral leads ensure intra-sector information management and coordination, as well as the mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues. At the national level, the Resident Coordinator's Office holds monthly meetings on the refugees/asylum seekers' situation in the north for the international humanitarian community to exchange and strategize on how to reinforce overall support to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire.

At regional level, UNHCR organizes weekly information-sharing meetings on the situation of refugees/asylum seekers and multi-sectoral interventions at the transit sites. These meetings bring together all humanitarian actors (agencies and NGOs).

## Human Interest Stories and External Media

[Les jeunes font régner la paix et la cohésion dans Laléraba | UNICEF](#)

[Ali, enseignant et demandeur d'asile en Côte d'Ivoire | UNICEF](#)

## HAC APPEALS AND SITREPS

Côte d'Ivoire situation reports

<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/cote-divoire/situation-reports>

West and Central Africa Region Appeals

<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/wca>

All Humanitarian Action for Children Appeals

<https://www.unicef.org/appeals>

All Situation Reports

<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/situation-reports>

## ANNEX A: SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicators	Disaggregation	Total needs	2024 targets	Total results	Progress
<b>Nutrition</b>					
# children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	33,500	-	0%
# children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	2,100	878	42%
# primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling	Total	-	22,000	-	0%
# children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	-	12,000	-	0%
# children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	40,000	26,800	67%
<b>Health and HIV/AIDS</b>					
# children vaccinated against measles, supplemental dos	Total	-	146,500	-	0%
<b>Water, sanitation and hygiene</b>					
# people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	25,000	2,000	8%
# people accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	20,000	-	0%
# women and girls accessing menstrual hygiene management services	Total	-	8,295	-	0%
# children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	Total	-	7,000	-	0%
# people reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	30,000	-	0%
# people reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	30,000	-	0%
<b>Child protection, GBViE and PSEA</b>					
# children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	35,910	493	1%
# women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	29,730	-	0%
# people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	25,000	730	3%
# children who have received individual case management	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
<b>Education</b>					
# children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	12,750	2,341	18%
# children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	68,000	545	1%
# children/adolescents accessing skills development programmes	Total	-	21,053	-	0%
# teachers and facilitators trained in basic pedagogy and/or mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	190	-	0%
# schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	Total	-	30	-	0%
<b>Social Protection (and Cash Transfers)</b>					
# households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF technical assistance support	Total	-	1,000	-	0%
# households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers (including for social protection and other sectors)	Total	-	11,000	-	0%
<b>Cross-sectoral (SBC, YOUTH &amp; ADO and AAP)</b>					
# affected people (children, caregivers, community members) reached with timely and life-saving information on how and where to access available services	Total	-	177,900	-	0%
# people engaged in reflective dialogue through community platform	Total	-	31,580	1,468	5%
# people engaged in reflective dialogue through social media and digital platform	Total	-	31,580	-	0%

## ANNEX B: FUNDING STATUS

Sector	REQUIREMENTS	funding Available					Funding gap	
	\$ Total Required	Humanitarian resources received in 2024	Other resources used in 2024	Humanitarian Resources available from 2023 (Carry-over)	Other resources available from 2023 (Carry-over)	Total funds available	\$ gap	% gap
Health and HIV/AIDS	1,765,000					0	1,765,000	100%
Nutrition	837,000		60,849			60,849	776,151	93%
Child protection (+GBViE and PSEA)	1,380,000					0	1,380,000	100%
Education	4,583,750		52,339			52,339	4,531,411	99%
WASH	3,275,000					0	3,275,000	100%
Social Protection (and Cash Transfers)	3,183,930					0	3,183,930	100%
Cross-sectoral (SBC, YOUTH & ADO and AAP)	1,180,000	300,000		115,022		415,022	764,978	65%
Preparedness	750,000					0	750,000	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,954,680</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>113,187</b>	<b>115,022</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>528,209</b>	<b>16,426,471</b>	<b>97%</b>

## NEXT SITREP: 30 JUNE 2024

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## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Côte d'Ivoire: HAC 2024\_ Estimates of children in need of humanitarian response

<sup>2</sup> Côte d'Ivoire: HAC 2024\_ Estimates of people in need of humanitarian response

<sup>3</sup> UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire, Situation Report on asylum seekers in the North, 25 March 2024

<sup>4</sup> Foyers de Renforcement des Activités de Nutrition Communautaire (Homes for Strengthening Community Nutrition Activities)