

GUINEA

CRITICAL ISSUES FOR CHILDREN AND WOMEN

The decade-long conflict in neighbouring countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone), the influx of more than 100,000 refugees and civil unrest in 2006, 2007 and 2008 along with high food prices have gravely worsened the well-being and livelihood of children and women throughout Guinea.

It is estimated that some 50,000 children suffer from some form of acute malnutrition. Less than 10 per cent of the population has access to basic health services, and preventable or easily treated diseases remain the main killers of Guinean children and women, with malaria, measles, acute respiratory infections and malnutrition being the leading causes of death. Even though close to 70 per cent of the population have access to improved drinking-water sources, there are great rural-urban and regional disparities. Many children are victims of migration and trafficking because of poverty and socio-political instability.

PLANNED HUMANITARIAN ACTION FOR 2009

UNICEF leads the WASH cluster, co-leads the protection cluster and is an active member of the health cluster led by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the food security cluster led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). UNICEF coordinates nutrition issues in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP).

Health and Nutrition: UNICEF will support 25 therapeutic feeding centres and 50 new ambulatory nutrition rehabilitation centres for the treatment of some 50,000 malnourished children; train 50 new health staff in treating severe malnutrition; procure and administer twice a year vitamin A and deworming medicines to all children under age five.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: UNICEF will provide approximately 1 million persons with safe water and sanitation facilities based on a decentralized contingency plan at family and community levels; promote household water treatment, food hygiene and individual and collective hygiene measures; and reinforce coordination between actors intervening in cholera prevention.

Education: UNICEF will provide a total of 7,300 displaced and war-affected children and 300 teachers and preschool educators with basic school materials, 'school-in-a-box' kits, recreational kits and early child development (ECD) kits; train 300 primary schoolteachers and preschool educators; rehabilitate schools and construct 50 temporary school/classroom structures to accommodate 2,500 primary schoolchildren.

Child Protection: UNICEF will ensure rapid response to the needs of the most vulnerable population in order to reduce the physical, psychological, legal and administrative consequences of crises on children and women; reinforce and equip existing child-friendly spaces; train experimented teachers in psychosocial care and provide tools for rapid assessments in order to better address and respond to violence/abuse; support family tracing, reunification and reintegration of separated children; support the development of a database on children and women victims of the crisis.

Summary of UNICEF Emergency Needs for 2009*

Sector	US\$
Health and Nutrition	4,348,251
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	855,000
Education	265,630
Child Protection	535,000
Total**	6,003,881

* Funds received against this appeal will be used to respond to both the immediate and medium-term needs of children and women as outlined above. If UNICEF should receive funds in excess of the medium-term funding requirements for this emergency, UNICEF will use those funds to support other underfunded emergencies.

** The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 7 per cent. The actual recovery rate on contributions will be calculated in accordance with UNICEF Executive Board Decision 2006/7 dated 9 June 2006.