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## Mali

Children and young people in Mali continue to bear the brunt of the country's complex and protracted crisis, with 1.6 million children in need of humanitarian assistance.<sup>1</sup> Lack of access to essential services and limited State presence and capacity in the northern and central regions are driving humanitarian needs. In 2019, an estimated 1.3 million people<sup>2</sup> will require safe water and 170,000 children<sup>3</sup> will be at risk of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Children and women are also facing serious protection risks, including grave violations such as killing, maiming, recruitment and use by armed groups and gender-based violence. More than 755,000 people, including 377,000 children, urgently require protection assistance.<sup>4</sup> Over 451,000 children require emergency education support across the country,<sup>5</sup> and the education situation remains complex in conflict-affected areas. In Mopti, 60 per cent of schools are closed.<sup>6</sup> Since 2017, insecurity has spread from the northern regions to the central regions, increasing humanitarian needs and giving rise to human rights violations and significant population movement. Some 77,000 people are internally displaced across the country due to both intercommunal and armed conflicts.<sup>7</sup> Like other Sahelian countries, Mali is also vulnerable to climate change and prone to natural disasters such as flooding and droughts.

### Humanitarian strategy

In 2019, UNICEF and partners will continue to reach affected communities in Mali with social services and strengthen the linkages between humanitarian action and development programmes. UNICEF will support the Government to manage SAM cases through an integrated package of activities, including hygiene promotion and the provision of water treatment and hygiene kits. The rehabilitation and construction of water systems will improve community access to drinking water, as will the provision of a full package of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services to health centres and schools. Health support will focus on immunization campaigns. In affected areas, UNICEF will promote the continuity of education through community mobilization, community learning centres and the provision of school supplies. UNICEF will provide psychosocial support to conflict-affected children; support the release of children from armed forces and groups; facilitate the reunification of unaccompanied and separated children with their families; and provide girl survivors of gender-based violence with community care and socio-economic reintegration. As lead of the nutrition, WASH and education clusters and the child protection sub-cluster, UNICEF will continue to support line ministries and civil society organizations to strengthen their capacities for coordination, disaster preparedness and response, at both the national and regional levels.

### Results from 2018

As of 31 October 2018, UNICEF had US\$17 million available against the US\$43.8 million appeal (39 per cent funded).<sup>8</sup> UNICEF also used over US\$5.4 million from its core resources to support key WASH and education humanitarian interventions over the course of the year.<sup>9</sup> To overcome insecurity and access constraints in conflict-affected regions, UNICEF collaborated with line ministries and local non-governmental organizations and drew on a high level of community acceptance. To strengthen the nutrition surveillance system and closely monitor the nutrition situation, 42 sentinel sites<sup>10</sup> were supported across the country. Nearly 103,000 people benefited from temporary and permanent drinking water services, and nearly 900 children with SAM and their families in the northern and central regions received WASH and nutrition kits. With UNICEF support, nearly 510,000 children were vaccinated against polio. UNICEF conducted strong advocacy in communities and with local leaders on a child's right to learning and the reopening of schools, and reached nearly 6,800 crisis-affected children with learning materials. Nearly 12,000 children benefited from psychosocial support through seven child-friendly spaces.<sup>11</sup> As a key humanitarian stakeholder, UNICEF strongly advocated for upholding humanitarian principles and respect for humanitarian space to maintain and improve access and service delivery to affected populations.

# Humanitarian Action for Children

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**Total people in need:**  
3.2 million<sup>12</sup>

**Total children (<18) in need:**  
1.6 million<sup>13</sup>

**Total people to be reached:**  
1,061,750<sup>14</sup>

**Total children to be reached:**  
980,500<sup>15</sup>

### 2019 programme targets:

#### Nutrition

- 170,000 children under 5 years affected by SAM admitted for treatment

#### Health

- 980,500 children under 5 years vaccinated against measles
- 980,500 children under 5 years vaccinated against polio

#### WASH

- 162,500 people accessing the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene<sup>16</sup>
- 50,000 people living in environments free of open defecation
- 25,000 children accessing WASH facilities in learning environments

#### Child protection

- 62,150 children reached with psychosocial support, including through child-friendly spaces
- 400 children separated from armed forces/groups reached with reintegration support

#### Education

- 245,000 crisis-affected children accessing formal and non-formal education

	Sector 2018 targets	Sector total results	UNICEF 2018 targets	UNICEF total results
<b>NUTRITION</b>				
Children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM admitted for therapeutic care	274,145	102,493	274,145	102,493
<b>HEALTH</b>				
Children under 5 years reached in each round of the polio campaign in the northern regions			418,900	509,685
Children under 5 years vaccinated against measles			349,000	72,119 <sup>i</sup>
<b>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</b>				
Children with SAM receiving a WASH kit and hygiene promotion session	15,592	6,833	6,000	1,393
Affected people provided with temporary access to safe water (water trucking, aquatabs, chlorine) and permanent drinking water sources (construction/rehabilitation)	908,000	336,934	82,608	102,776
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>				
Child victims of/or at risk of violence, abuse and exploitation who received psychosocial support	47,298	13,013	40,000	11,743 <sup>ii</sup>
Children associated with armed forces and armed groups and other vulnerable children identified and have access to referral services and reintegration opportunities	1,080	441	580	65
Unaccompanied and separated children identified and/or placed in alternative care arrangements and/or who have benefited from reunification and individual follow-up	900	517	300	114
<b>EDUCATION</b>				
School-aged boys and girls affected by crisis receiving learning/school materials	211,375	12,081	67,000	6,770
Out-of-school boys and girls affected by crisis accessing education	211,375	33,028	150,000	4,927 <sup>iii</sup>

Results are through 31 October 2018.

<sup>i</sup> In 2018, health did not receive enough funds to conduct measles vaccination campaigns in all regions affected by the crisis, but responded to outbreaks in some areas. This activity was postponed to 2019.

<sup>ii</sup> The low result for psychosocial support is due to the inadequate capacities of service providers (in regard to human resources endowments, both in qualitative and quantitative terms and logistics) and significant funding gaps.

<sup>iii</sup> The modest result is mainly due to underfunding and heightened insecurity in the northern and central regions, which impeded humanitarian access.

## Funding requirements

In line with the country's inter-agency 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan, UNICEF is requesting US\$42 million to meet the humanitarian needs of children and women in Mali. Without sufficient and timely funding, UNICEF will be unable to provide critical services to people affected by the conflict in both the northern and central regions and support the national response to the country's continuing Sahel nutrition crisis. This funding will also be essential to UNICEF's ability to provide critical health, WASH, child protection and education services to the most vulnerable children.

Sector	2019 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	14,749,880
Health	1,470,750
Water, sanitation and hygiene	13,008,070
Child protection	4,000,000
Education	7,500,000
Cluster coordination	1,250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,978,700</b>

<sup>1</sup> Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Mali: 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview' (draft), OCHA, 2018. The Humanitarian Needs Overview document was not finalized/published at the time of writing this appeal. The appeal will be updated to be aligned with the published Humanitarian Needs Overview, once finalized.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Mali Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey report, September 2018.

<sup>4</sup> 'Mali: 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview' (draft).

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> As reported by the education cluster, as of October 2018.

<sup>7</sup> International Organization for Migration Commission for Population Movement, 'Report on Population Movements', IOM-CMP, 18 October 2018, <[https://mali.iom.int/sites/default/files/CMP%20reports/Rapport\\_CMP\\_18\\_Oct%20\\_2018.pdf](https://mali.iom.int/sites/default/files/CMP%20reports/Rapport_CMP_18_Oct%20_2018.pdf)>, accessed 31 November 2018.

<sup>8</sup> Available funds include US\$15.7 million received against the current appeal and US\$1.7 million carried forward from the previous year.

<sup>9</sup> Due to the absence of humanitarian resources and the request from certain donors to restrict funding to particular regions, regular resources had to be used for the emergency response. Education received only US\$1.5 million out of the US\$7.4 million planned.

<sup>10</sup> Sentinel sites were established for nutrition surveillance, to monitor, on a monthly basis, the trends in the nutritional status of children aged 6 to 59 months (given their vulnerability to malnutrition) and take prompt actions to adjust the response.

<sup>11</sup> Of the 11,743 children reached, 6,032 were boys and 5,711 were girls.

<sup>12</sup> 'Mali: 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview' (draft).

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> This figure is based on the highest programme coverage target for access to water, which includes 3.2 million refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, of which nearly 2 million are children.

<sup>15</sup> This is the total child target population based on children being 53 per cent of the population as per the 2016 Demographic and Health Survey conducted by the Government.

<sup>16</sup> The adequate quantity of water is 15 litres per person per day, in line with the Sphere standard and as adapted/agreed to at the country level.

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