Humanitarian Action for Children

Burkina Faso

The humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso was one of the fastest growing crises of 2019. The number of violent security incidents significantly increased compared with previous years, and inter-community conflicts have added another complex dimension to the crisis. In 2020, more than 2.2 million people will be in need of humanitarian assistance, including 1.2 million children. The number of people who have been forcibly displaced has risen from 87,000 in January 2019, to nearly 487,000 in October 2019 (44 per cent children), and the country is also hosting nearly 27,000 Malian refugees. An estimated 91 per cent of internally displaced persons are settled in host communities that are growing increasingly vulnerable. UNICEF estimates that 330,000 children in affected regions are in need of psychosocial support. Insecurity has also severely impacted basic social services: over 2,000 schools are closed, affecting 330,000 children and 9,000 teachers; and 69 health facilities are closed and 71 are functioning with minimum operations, affecting nearly 617,000 people. Over 147,000 children aged 5 years and younger are suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM), including nearly 86,000 children in the seven emergency-affected regions. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition exceeds the critical threshold in the Sahel and Est regions.

Humanitarian strategy

In 2020, UNICEF will scale up its multi-sectoral humanitarian response in Burkina Faso through partnerships, sectoral and inter-sectoral coordination and collaboration with the Government, in line with peacebuilding, conflict-sensitive and resilience strategies. UNICEF will support simplified approaches to SAM treatment and partnerships with community-based health workers to facilitate the delivery of health and nutrition services, while continuing to strengthen systems. Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions will combine emergency and rapid response, with medium-term resilience-building strategies, such as Community-Led Total Sanitation, adapted to emergency contexts. UNICEF will diversify formal and non-formal education using radio education programmes and the Safe School Strategy and through the provision of technical support for Koranic and Franco-Arabic schools. UNICEF will emphasize building the resilience of families and communities to cope with adversity, focusing on gender and disabilities, and accelerating both prevention of and response to child protection concerns. Partnerships with local actors will be strengthened to continue service delivery in conflict-affected communities, including through systematic support to community-based child protection mechanisms and capacity building for community-based health workers. UNICEF will also strengthen its engagement in the Rapid Response Mechanism, in collaboration with relevant non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies, including through technical support and procurement.

Results from 2019

As of 31 August 2019, UNICEF had US$11.4 million available against the US$47.6 million appeal (24 per cent funded). The large funding gap and reduced humanitarian space due to increasing insecurity posed major challenges to UNICEF’s ability to reach its targets. UNICEF supported the treatment of nearly 38,000 children with SAM (51 per cent girls), 60 per cent of whom are from the six regions affected by insecurity. In its WASH response, UNICEF was only able to reach 6 per cent of the planned targets for sanitation, 19 per cent for water and 14 per cent for hygiene support due to funding constraints and access challenges. Over 88,000 children were vaccinated against measles (42 per cent of the target). However, the prolonged health workers’ strike challenged efforts to monitor the health situation, including potential outbreaks. UNICEF supported over 12,000 children affected by insecurity to access education (6 per cent of the target), and reached 340,000 children through the Safe School Strategy (91 per cent of the target). UNICEF was a key government partner in reaching 1,600 students affected by school closures with accelerated classes and end-of-section exams. Nearly 36,000 children benefited from UNICEF-supported child protection prevention and response services (38 per cent of the target).

2020 programme targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total people in need</th>
<th>Total children (&lt;18) in need</th>
<th>Total people to be reached</th>
<th>Total children to be reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>147,131</td>
<td>375,000</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>135,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>270,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>485,000</td>
<td>135,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>310,000</td>
<td>525,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>197,304</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>349,974</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Communication for development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>150,000 people in host communities reached with key life-saving / behaviour change messages on essential family practices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme area</th>
<th>Programme targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>• 147,131 children under 5 years with SAM admitted into therapeutic feeding programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 560,950 caregivers of children reached with infant and young child feeding counselling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>• 270,000 children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 375,000 children and women receiving primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 135,000 people receiving long-lasting insecticide-treated nets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>• 310,000 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 525,000 people accessing appropriate sanitation facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 500,000 people reached with handwashing behaviour change programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>• 197,304 children accessing mental health and psychosocial support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 20,000 children and women accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>• 349,974 children accessing formal or non-formal education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 500,000 children aged 3 to 17 years affected by crises receiving mental health and psychosocial support through strengthened capacities of teachers to provide supportive care environments at school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid response</td>
<td>• 70,000 displaced people, including persons with disabilities, provided with essential household items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019
NUTRITION

Children under 5 years with SAM admitted into therapeutic feeding programmes 133,066 38,914 133,100 38,914
Pregnant and lactating women aged 0 to 23 months who received infant and young child feeding counselling 510,000 389,391 465,000 389,391

HEALTH

Children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles 209,000 68,286
Pregnant women in emergency-affected areas who received two long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets 180,000 10,000
Mothers with newborn children in emergency-affected areas received at least one postnatal visit by a community health worker 17,088 7,945

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

People accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene 157,785 61,099 136,000 25,745
People accessing appropriate sanitation facilities 149,481 17,680 136,000 11,460
People accessing hygiene awareness interventions in targeted regions 276,816 85,916 200,000 55,087

CHILD PROTECTION

Girls and boys reached with psychosocial support, including access to child-friendly spaces/others safe spaces 112,000 39,527 95,000 35,862
Women and children affected by gender-based violence provided with prevention or response interventions 5,000 2,043 5,000 1,994

EDUCATION

Children affected by crisis accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning 320,000 12,372 200,000 12,372
Boys and girls aged 3 to 17 years attending education in a classroom where the teacher has been trained in psychosocial support 374,839 339,754 374,839 339,754
School-aged boys and girls (aged 3 to 17 years) receiving learning materials 320,000 12,372 200,000 12,372

Funding requirements

In line with the upcoming 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview, UNICEF is requesting US$96.67 million to meet the humanitarian needs of children in Burkina Faso. Without this funding, UNICEF will be unable to support the most vulnerable boys and girls affected by humanitarian crisis with a multi-sectoral package of assistance. This funding will enable UNICEF to invest in strategic partnerships and bring health, education, nutrition and WASH services to the most affected populations. UNICEF and partners will also tackle access constraints through rapid response, community-based interventions and communication for development strategies, which are critical to strengthening social cohesion in communities.

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1 As of 31 September 2019, 488 security incidents have been registered in 2019, compared with 404 incidents in 2015-2018. United Nations Department of Safety and Security Burkina Faso, 30 September 2019.
2 Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency needs and planning documents. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, ‘Burkina Faso: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview’ (draft), OCHA, October 2019.
3 Figures are from the shelter sector as of 11 September 2019 and subject to change upon finalization of the Burkina Faso 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview.
4 Figures are estimates from the education sector as of 10 October 2019 and subject to change upon finalization of the Burkina Faso 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview.
5 Figures are from the child protection sector as of 16 October 2019 and subject to change upon finalization of the Burkina Faso 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview.
6 This includes children affected by school closures and displaced host community children (including those already enrolled but who are in need of psychosocial support, conflict/stress risk reduction, quality education, etc.). Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, ‘Burkina Faso: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview’, OCHA, 21 August 2019.
7 Centre des opérations de réponse des urgences sanitaires, 1 October 2019.
9 Ibid. The World Health Organization (WHO) critical threshold is a global acute malnutrition rate of 15 per cent.
10 Clusters are not activated in Burkina Faso. UNICEF is co-leading the nutrition, education and WASH sectors and the child protection sub-sector with the Government.
11 Available funds include US$7.2 million received against the 2019 appeal and US$4.2 million carried forward from the previous year.
12 There is no dedicated group for this region. Sahel, Centre-Nord, Est, Booba du Mouhoun, Centre-Est and Nord, while food and nutrition crises are affecting 13 regions.
13 The education response has the largest funding gap. Other resources were leveraged for the Safe School Strategy and emergency school supplies.
14 Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency needs and planning documents. Burkina Faso: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview’ (draft).
15 Ibid. The number of children in need represents 56 per cent of the total number of people in need.
16 This includes the highest coverage target for caregivers (women/pregnant and lactating women population) for infant and young child feeding counseling; the highest coverage target for access to sanitation (adult population excluding caregivers); the highest coverage target of 270,000 children under 5 years for measles vaccination; and 84 per cent (to avoid double counting) of 500,000 children aged 3 to 17 years for mental health and psychosocial support. Forty-nine per cent are women/girls and 51 per cent are men/boys.
17 This includes the highest coverage target of 270,000 children under 5 years for measles vaccination and 84 per cent (to avoid double counting) of 500,000 children aged 3 to 17 years for mental health and psychosocial support.
18 Forty-nine per cent are women/girls and 51 per cent are men/boys.
19 Children with disabilities represent 0.89 per cent of the child population (0.69 per cent girls) or 6,141 children (including 4,761 girls). Rapport du recensement général des enfants en situation de handicap au Burkina Faso, 2013.
20 This includes the highest coverage target of 270,000 children under 5 years for measles vaccination and 84 per cent (to avoid double counting) of 500,000 children aged 3 to 17 years for mental health and psychosocial support.
21 Forty-nine per cent are girls and 51 per cent are boys.
22 This was calculated based on 461,891 children aged 5 to 17 years in need estimated by the child protection group during the ongoing Humanitarian Needs Overview process (figures not yet finalized). The group subtracted the percentage of children from areas not accessible due to insecurity (5 per cent) and children already covered by the response by UNICEF and other actors.
23 The ongoing Humanitarian Needs Overview process is estimating an increase of 25.1 per cent in 2020, compared with 2019. This situation is due to the rapid increase in the number of internally displaced persons and closed schools. The education-in-emergencies working group’s target is 100 per cent of the needs of accessible out-of-school children affected by the crisis (including children from host communities). UNICEF is targeting 70 per cent of overall needs related to access, psychosocial support and learning materials.
24 This covers the newly displaced people in cities with over 100,000 households and where access is possible. UNICEF is aiming to cover 30 per cent of the non-food items needed. As of October 2019, official estimates for 2020 requirements are not yet available.
25 Figures are provisional estimates. Financial requirements are subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency appeals/planning documents.
26 A significant increase in the number of internally displaced persons and closed schools for the treatment of pneumonia, diarrhoea and malaria.
27 The budget was calculated based on the unit costs determined by the education-in-emergencies working group. Rapport du recensement général des enfants en situation de handicap au Burkina Faso, 2013.