Chad

Chad continues to face numerous humanitarian challenges and a context of growing vulnerability. Of the 3.9 million people affected by emergencies, an estimated 3.4 million will be food insecure in 2016 and 728,000 children under 5 years will suffer from acute malnutrition. In addition, Chad is host to the world’s seventh largest refugee population, with more than 378,000 refugees from the Central African Republic, Nigeria and the Sudan. Massive displacement in the Lake Chad region related to insecurity and Boko Haram is likely to continue. Children are particularly exposed to forced recruitment and other forms of violence and exploitation, and host communities are suffering from reduced livelihood opportunities and increased pressure on social services. In total, an estimated 650,000 people – 60 per cent of whom are children – are displaced by violence along borders or in bordering countries and require humanitarian aid for reintegration and access to quality basic services. The high prevalence of diseases and epidemics, such as cholera, measles and malaria, is causing significant morbidity and mortality within the population, particularly among children under 5 years. Humanitarian access has declined due to insecurity, especially around Lake Chad.

Humanitarian strategy

In 2016, UNICEF will continue to provide an integrated response to prevent and treat children under 5 years suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In response to recurrent epidemics and multiple displacement crises, UNICEF will provide access to safe drinking water and sanitation, as well as hygiene messages. Medical supplies will be distributed to health facilities, HIV-positive pregnant women will receive treatment, and emergency measles vaccination campaigns will take place. UNICEF will continue to build resilience through community-based management of SAM, and will promote quality inclusive education in emergencies. Unaccompanied and separated children will be placed in intermediary care and supported with family tracing and reunification services. Delivering humanitarian assistance through local authorities, communities and organizations will enable UNICEF to provide aid in hard-to-reach areas while also building local capacity to respond to emergencies. UNICEF will continue to lead the nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and education clusters and the child protection sub-cluster at the national level, in addition to sub-national clusters in these sectors. UNICEF will strengthen coordination and monitoring of emergency response through the clusters. Information management will be used as a tool for evidence-based programming, in order to prioritize aid for the most vulnerable.

Results from 2015

As of 31 October 2015, UNICEF had received 20 per cent (US$12.7 million) of its total humanitarian funding requirements for 2015, in addition to US$6.1 million carried forward from 2014. UNICEF and partners responded to the needs of populations affected by the nutrition crisis and the violence in north-east Nigeria, particularly in the Sahel belt and around Lake Chad. More than 116,000 children suffering from SAM were treated, with a recovery rate of 89 per cent. Nearly 100,000 conflict-affected people now have improved access to safe water and sanitation facilities and more than 500,000 children under 5 years were vaccinated against measles. UNICEF and partners also responded to measles outbreaks in Abeche and Goz Beida, vaccinating 66,500 children aged 6 months to 14 years. More than 32,000 children of primary school age gained access to education. UNICEF reached over 1,000 unaccompanied or separated children with psychosocial support, care and family tracing and reunification services. More than 40,500 internally displaced persons and returnees in the Lake and Sido areas benefitted from non-food items and shelter kits. The low rates of achievement against overall 2015 targets, particularly in child protection and education, relate to lack of funding, difficult security access to the sites, and the limited number of operational partners in newly affected areas.

Humanitarian Action for Children

Total affected population: 3.9 million
Total affected children (under 18): 2.2 million
Total people to be reached in 2016: 1.7 million
Total children to be reached in 2016: 1 million

2016 programme targets

Nutrition
- 178,900 children aged 6 to 59 months affected by SAM admitted for treatment
- 140,000 children received vitamin A supplementation and deworming

Health
- 246,000 children aged 6 to 59 months in humanitarian situations vaccinated against measles

WASH
- 49,000 children and families affected by malnutrition received a life-saving package of WASH and nutrition services
- 255,000 people accessed potable water and basic sanitation and reached with messages about appropriate hygiene practices

Child protection
- 2,360 unaccompanied and separated children accessed family tracing and reunification services
- 22,000 children affected by conflict accessed psychosocial support in child-friendly places
- 19,250 children received mine risk education

Education
- 95,600 children of primary school age in humanitarian situations accessed education

HIV and AIDS
- 40,000 pregnant women accessed HIV and AIDS voluntary testing and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV services

Non-food items and shelter
- 50,000 internally displaced persons received non-food items and shelter kits
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Results are through 31 October 2015 unless otherwise noted.

1 Chad ranks 184 out of 187 countries on the Human Development Index (UNDP, 2012), and is facing some of the most alarming social indicators in the world (for example, the maternal mortality rate is among the highest in the world at 1,084 deaths for every 10,000 births).

2 Chad Humanitarian Response Plan 2016.

3 Ibid.