Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Since the start of the outbreak in December 2019, the new coronavirus (COVID-19) has spread to nearly all countries and territories.

- In Burkina Faso, the COVID-19 epidemic was officially declared by the government on 10 March 2020, in an already deteriorated security context characterized by an ongoing humanitarian crisis with increasing population displacements.
- The first case in Burkina Faso was reported on 9 March 2020 in the capital city Ouagadougou. By 22 July, 9 regions out of 13 are affected (Centre, Hauts-Bassins, Centre-Nord, Boucle du Mouhoun, Plateau-Central, Cascades, Centre-Sud, Sud-Ouest and Sahel). However, the hotspot remains Ouagadougou.
- On 13 June, the curfew was lifted.
- UNICEF is providing technical support to the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), media and communication, surveillance, diagnosis, care, and logistics/supplies sub-committees led by the Ministry of Health (MoH).
- On 27 May, the Ministry of national education, literacy and national languages promotion (MENAPLN) announced that schools will remain closed until the end of school year.
- On 1st June, schools reopened but only for students who have to pass a national exam at the end of the school year (Certificat d’Étude Primaires, Brevet du premier cycle et d’études professionnelles et Baccalauréat).
- In July, all schools reopened are well functioning. The school exams for the 2020 session started on July 14 for 779,542 candidates in the whole country (out of which 11,019 are IDP)\(^1\).
- The presence of non-state armed groups (NSAG) continues to remain a major cause of insecurity and instability in the northern and eastern part of the country.

\(^1\) Memo préparation sur la rentrée scolaire 2020-2021
UNICEF’s COVID-19 response

Health
UNICEF, through its continued support to the Ministry of Health (MoH), received a third batch of equipment consisting of gloves (2,000 boxes of gloves (100 per box), 250 Thermoflash, 200 resuscitation kits. This new allocation will strengthen the surveillance and management of COVID-19 cases. In addition, UNICEF has acquired, through a partnership with USAID and the Global Fund, 14,000 COVID-19 diagnostic tests for laboratories.

UNICEF is also engaged in strengthening surveillance at community level with the development of training modules on COVID-19, the revision of the community-based health workers (CBHW) image box including COVID-19 prevention, and the identification, self-detection and awareness raising of CBHW such as smartphone applications or tablets to facilitate cases management.

At the regional level, particularly in the Centre Nord region, UNICEF supported the coordination of the COVID-19 response by holding meetings of the epidemic management committee and revising their COVID-19 plan.

The challenges remain the technical and logistic support of the MoH and the training of CBHWs in the management of the upcoming reopening of borders, the continuity of care for women and children, and the implementation of the training plan of decentralized authorities and teams on COVID-19 care.

Discussions are underway with the Islamic Development Bank and the Global Fund to broaden the partnership as part of the response to COVID-19 through UNICEF procurement services, including the acquisition of medico-technical equipment.

Nutrition
At the end of June 2020, 37,911 children aged 6 to 59 months suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes. This represents 26 per cent of the annual target. Performance indicators remained in line with the SPHERE standards with 90.5 per cent of the cure rate, 2.3 per cent of the death rate and 7.2 per cent of the drop-out rate.

Infant and young child feeding (IYCF)
UNICEF and implementing partners supported 1,541 new support groups, and 8,031 new pregnant and lactating women received counselling on IYCF practices. This brings the number of pregnant and lactating women who have received counselling on best practices in emergency situations since the beginning of the year to 285,932 (51 per cent of the annual target).

Prevention of malnutrition
40,372 caregivers were trained in community-based screening for acute malnutrition and 33,975 women were counselled on the prevention of COVID-19 in the Centre Nord region. Micronutrient powders were provided to 35,455 children aged 6 to 23 months in the Est and Centre Nord regions.

National vitamin A supplementation (VAS) and deworming days
The 1st round started on 26 June 2020. Practical instructions were developed for CBWHs and health workers for vitamin A administration, deworming and screening of acute malnutrition cases of children aged 6 to 59 months. Preliminary results of the urban phase, which ended on 29 June, showed that 855,113 children 6 to 59 months were supplemented with vitamin A (119 per cent of the target), 758,538 children aged 12 to 59 months were dewormed (118 per cent of the target), and 788,427 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened (110 per cent of the target).

WASH
UNICEF trained 717 community health agents (431 women) and 250 health agents (150 women) on COVID-19 infection control and prevention (IPC) in the Centre-Nord and Centre-Ouest regions. UNICEF trained 100 traditional healers on COVID-19 IPC. A one-day training was organized for 14 health care workers (8 women) from seven isolation and management sites. The focus was on biomedical waste management, spraying techniques and the use of incinerators. 10 health promotion officials from health care facilities (HCF) were trained on crisis communication and COVID-19.

In Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Ouest, Nord, Centre Nord, Centre, Est and Sahel regions:
- 160 health centres and 50 schools benefited from rapid repairs of WASH facilities and WASH COVID-19 kits.
- 300 public places and 5,400 households were supplied with handwashing stations and soap.

To test newer methods to promote handwashing in rural areas and schools, UNICEF and its partners have popularized the tippy-tap and the nudging approach tested by UNICEF in 2019.

Through a routine humanitarian programme on COVID-19 response, 6,500 people were provided with safe drinking water, 5,282 people benefited from sanitation services, and 64,452 people from hygiene kits and hygiene promotion campaigns.

During the reporting period, the WASH cluster coordination team updated the COVID-19 response plan following the submission of 18 WASH NGO projects on the Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC) platform. 58 per cent of the total budget of US$17.8 million have been already secured. In addition, the updated WASH cluster COVID-19 response plan was shared with the Water and Sanitation Ministry and integrated in the Ministry’s own national COVID-19 response plan.

2COVID-19 global guidelines: hands washing with soap, disinfecting of hands and screening equipment with the hydro-alcoholic solution, and the wearing of masks by health workers
3 Tippy Tap is a hands-free hand washing device operated by a foot lever. It is useful in the absence of running water especially in rural areas. About 40 mls of water is sufficient for hand washing.
4 Attractive hand washing stations for children are installed with the assumption that they will lure children to wash their hands, even in the absence of hygiene promotion activities.
During the reporting period, UNICEF continued leading partners interventions in RCCE, including technical support to the coordination mechanism.

The RCCE national plan with the MoH, UNICEF provided technical and financial support to the Ministry of Communication to develop a crisis communication strategy and scale up interventions across the country using the public radio stations network.

UNICEF has developed new partnership with NGOs Plan International and Centre d'études et de réinsertion économique, sociale et sportive (CERESSE) to reinforced RCCE interventions in the Centre Nord region, the hotspot of humanitarian crisis, and in poor and most at risk areas of Ouagadougou city to prevent and control community outbreaks.

In the security-affected regions, UNICEF-led RCCE outreach interventions, through technical and financial support to regional health directorates, have directly reached over 143,800 people, including 480 people who took part to community dialogues on COVID19 prevention and control.

Overall, UNICEF and its partners' interpersonal communication interventions (educational talks, focus groups, home visits) have directly reached over 1,005,100 people while mass media programmes reached 9 million people with messages on the prevention against COVID-19 and access to services.

Furthermore, UNICEF and the Ministry in charge of Youth are using U-Report platform to provide adolescents with COVID-19 messages. They have engaged 340 U-Reporters to mobilize their peers and carried out outreach activities in communities.

Finally, UNICEF and the MoH launched a survey on COVID-19 response to understand the perceptions, needs and practices of populations. Results will inform the development and further refinement of the RCCE activities and other pillars of the response.

Despite an initial decrease of the vaccination coverage, UNICEF and the MoH successfully conducted a second round polio campaign and reestablished the routine immunization activities to pre-COVID-19 coverage levels. The revision of the national immunization plan integrating COVID-19, and implemented through a strong rumors management system, digital engagement, mass media programmes, mobilization of traditional/religious leaders and community engagement interventions contributed to support and maintain the continuation of health services.

With UNICEF support, 125,000 posters (including 3,500 in national languages) to raise awareness against COVID-19 were delivered to the Ministry of national education, literacy and promotion of national languages (MENAPNL) and NGOs. Posters were delivered to 336 reopened schools in the crisis affected areas to strengthen compliance with the health protocol in schools, reaching 11,019 internally displaced children (5,043 girls).

- For pre-primary and primary classes (CP1, CE1 and CM1), the schoolyear is ended and validated for all. School will resume on 1st October 2020.
- For the CP2 and CE2 levels, the schoolyear is ended and validated for all. From CP2 to CE1 and CE2 to CM1, validation is based on the best quarterly or half-yearly result.
- For the secondary level (6th, 5th, 4th) and post-secondary (2nd, 1st), the school year is validated, and students will join the upper levels.
- Final exams for primary school (CM2) and secondary (3rd) will be organized on 14 July 2020 while the baccalaureate exam is planned in August 2020.

**Child Protection**

UNICEF, in partnership with the Social Service Department and child protection organizations, are scaling up prevention and response services to children and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in high burden communities that are not easily accessible by implementing partners due to ongoing armed conflict.

The programme has mapped interventions of child protection services that include:

- review, identification and document vulnerable cases, including unaccompanied and separated children and children on the move
- provide family tracing, reunification and reintegration services of identified unaccompanied and separated children, including children on move
- expand and strengthen the technical capacities of the social workers
- expand national partnership arrangements to increase and accelerate the provision of child protection and gender-based services.

The Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) has finalised and published its report on COVID-19 and its impact on the protection of children in the Est, Nord and Sahel regions in Burkina Faso. The report identified programming gaps. One of the key findings revealed that 32 per cent of children perceived an increase in domestic violence against girls and boys as a result of confinement at home. The situation is aggravated by children’s lack of access to school

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5 http://luis.unesco.org/fr/country/bf Pre-primary: children 3 to 5 years old. Primary classes (CP1,CP2, CE1, CE2, CM1 and CM2): children 6 to 10 years old
6 CP2: children 6 to 7 years old; CE2: children of 8 to 9 years old
7 https://lefaso.net/spip.php?article97076
8 Children 15 to 17 years old
9 Children 11 to 15 years old
10 COVID Disponibilité services Rapport Avril 2020

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**Education**

UNICEF continued to work with the government and humanitarian partners to provide accelerated access to quality distance learning to IDPs and the most vulnerable school-aged children from host families, and coordinated the response as the lead of the Education cluster. So far, 94,683 (49,235 girls) students from pre-primary and primary schools benefited from distance learning via radio and TV.
friends, teachers and the safe space and services that schools provide.

A new caseload of 8,872 girls and boys received mental health and psychosocial support services to strengthen their resilience and wellbeing in the context of COVID-19. As of 15 July, 46,725 children (25,160 girls) have been reached by specialised mental health and community-based psychosocial support services.

UNICEF, in collaboration with the Ministry of women, National Solidarity, Family and Humanitarian Action

Adaptations to ongoing UNICEF programmes

One of the strategic approaches is to ensure continuity of services for the most vulnerable children and families during emergencies including COVID-19. To this end, UNICEF has adapted the current implementation strategies to respond adequately to the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in education, health, WASH, communication for development (C4D) and social inclusion. Some of the adjusted interventions include public awareness on handwashing and hygiene measures for everyone and everywhere through trainings of partners, and media and community engagement. Other interventions include improved access to water and HCFs, the development of alternative advanced strategies for the continuity of services such as door-to-door, cash transfers, etc., and advisory and precautionary measures to avoid large gatherings.

UNICEF interventions that have been adapted to COVID-19 context:
- Health and Nutrition. UNICEF prioritized the continuity of health care by strengthening the sanitary protection of medical staff by delivering IPC supplies (gloves, masks, personal protective equipment, etc.).
- WASH. UNICEF prioritized the delivery of water and hygiene supplies to HCFs located in the zones most impacted by COVID-19.
- Education. Since 16 March, all the schools are closed (more than 20,000), affecting more than 4 million students. UNICEF has put in place mitigation actions, notably the scale up of the Radio education programmes at national level.
- Child protection. The finalisation of the research on Burkina Faso COVID-19 impact and children needs assessment will enable the child protection programme to better address the gaps and the specific needs of vulnerable children and families.
- C4D. UNICEF and partners have integrated COVID-19 messages in ongoing social and behavior change interventions, including radio programmes and activities at community level. In addition, C4D activities are integrated in several sectoral programmes to raise awareness on risks and prevention.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

As of 22 July, UNICEF received US$500,000 for COVID-19 response from USAID, US$350,000 from UK DFID, US$856,443 from CERF, US$70,000 from Global Partnership for Education (GPE), US$300,000 from Education Cannot Wait and US$1,100,000 from DANIDA (Denmark) for activities related to C4D, health, WASH, nutrition, education, child protection, communications, supply and coordination. Additional funds are being negotiated with a range of donors.

External Media

UNICEF contributes to the efforts deployed by the national authorities in raising awareness on the epidemic. The communication team is participating to the national Communication and media sub-committee and supporting the development of key messages used in several audiovisual contents, including TV spots broadcast and mass media.

The communication team supported the visibility of UNICEF programmes in international media such as The New Humanitarian, and France Info.tv. The production of content on UNICEF and partners operations help raise awareness on the need to deliver humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable despite the pandemic context: with the European Union (Instagram, Twitter, Facebook) and the Austria development agency (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook).

The communication team initiated a partnership with famous artists and supported the production of two sensitization songs (in Fulfuldé and Moore): Nourat and Habibou Sawadogo (Facebook Twitter, Instagram) and Dicko Fils (Instagram, Facebook). The content reached more than 800,000 people, and credited key donors (USAID, DANIDA, ECW, GPE, UK DFID)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>UNICEF and IPs Response</th>
<th>2020 target</th>
<th>Results achieved so far*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Risk Communication and Community Engagement</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># people who participate in COVID-19 engagement actions</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>5,853</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>106,700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WASH and IPC</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>64,881</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>967</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># children and women receiving essential healthcare, including prenatal, delivery and postnatal care, essential newborn care, immunization, treatment of childhood illnesses and HIV care through UNICEF supported community health workers and health facilities</td>
<td>375,000</td>
<td>240,268</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># children under the age of 5 with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admitted into therapeutic feeding programmes</td>
<td>147,131</td>
<td>37,911</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># caregivers of children reached with infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling</td>
<td>560,950</td>
<td>285,932</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># children supported with inclusive distance/home-based learning</td>
<td>306,540</td>
<td>94,963</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># children supported in schools that have implementing safe school protocols (COVID-19 prevention and control)</td>
<td>306,540</td>
<td>11,019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child Protection and GBV</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># children without parental or family care provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community-based mental health and psychosocial support</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>46,725</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># UNICEF staff and partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation and referrals for survivors</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>119</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># children and adults having access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>8,998</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Since 15 March 2020
Annex B

Funding Status*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Funding requirements US$</th>
<th>Funds available US$</th>
<th>Funding gap US$</th>
<th>Gap %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>659,806</td>
<td>1,340,194</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of critical medical and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) supplies and improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC)</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>3,188,128</td>
<td>2,811,872</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting the provision of continued access to essential health care services for women, children and vulnerable communities, including case management</td>
<td>4,74,136</td>
<td>2,645,350</td>
<td>2,228,786</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to continuous education, child protection and GBV services</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>810,459</td>
<td>1,689,541</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data collection social science research on the secondary impacts on children and women</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,724,136</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,353,743</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,370,393</strong></td>
<td><strong>53.2%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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