Current humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso is characterised by aggravated food and nutrition insecurity and increased insecurity in the north due to repeated attacks by violent extremist groups. A total of 789,296 people including 543,532 children require at least one of the areas of humanitarian assistance in 2018 (OCHA, January 2018). This report highlights the evolving humanitarian situation in nutrition and education.

- Based on the national Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rate of 2% (National Nutrition Survey, Sept 2017), estimated 187,177 under-five children suffer from Severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2018 (against the initial estimate: 120,000).
- According to the regional inter-agency estimation, the situation could get worse with up to 276,734 under-five children with SAM in 2018 (the upper confidence interval for Burkina).
- The predicted above-average rainfalls and difficult lean season in 2018 could also intensify nutrition-related vulnerabilities such as increased incidence of malaria and water-borne diseases.
- As of January 24th 2018, 92 schools were closed in the Sahel region due to security threats, negatively affecting the rights of 9,528 pupils (including 5,121 girls) to education.

### UNICEF’s Response with Partners (2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HAC indicators 2017 (Nutrition and Education)</th>
<th>UNICEF</th>
<th>Sector/Cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UNICEF Target 2017</td>
<td>Total Results*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children &lt; 5 years old with SAM admitted into therapeutic feeding programme</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>80,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children aged 6-23 months benefiting from Infant and Young Child Feeding services</td>
<td>140,000</td>
<td>128,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children affected by humanitarian situations having access to formal or informal education</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>78,950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total results are cumulative, as of November 2017

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**01 February, 2018**

**543,532**

# of children in need of humanitarian assistance

**789,296**

# of people in need

(OCHA January 2018)

**UNICEF Appeal 2018 (HAC)**

US$ 31 million

Including:
- Education: 7.6 million
- Nutrition: 20 million

**Funding Status 2018***

- **2018 funding requirement:** $31M (HAC)
- **Carry-forward amount:** $675,000
- **Funds received current year:** $0
- **Funding gap:** $30 m

*Funds available includes funding received for the current appeal year as well as the carry-forward from the previous year.
Humanitarian Needs

**Education:** In 2017, at least 15 security incidents directly targeted schools in the Sahel region, especially in rural areas bordering Mali such as Nassoumbou, Diguel, Baraboule, Koutougou and Tongomayel districts in Soum province (data as of 8 December, 2017). These attacks or threats by violent extremist groups targeting schools and security posts (gendarme and police) have caused wide spread fear among the population, especially teachers, and led to the closure of schools in the region. Ongoing national strike by the teachers’ labour unions demanding better working conditions is another reason for the prolonged suspension of education. Out of a total of 1,023 primary schools in the region, 92 are currently closed, affecting 9,528 pupils including 5,121 girls (Ministry of Education, January 2018). This represents 9% of total pupils in the region where already 78.8% of children aged 6-11 years are out of school (UNICEF and Ministry of Education, OOSC study, 2017). In this context, an estimated 150,000 children (including 77,550 girls) would need support to access education in 2018.

**Nutrition:** The situation of food and nutrition insecurity has deteriorated due to chronic droughts linked to lack of rainfalls, famine (reduced productivity and increased food prices), and limited access to social services due to insecurity. The national Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate has increased from 7.6% in 2016 to 8.6% in 2017, while the national SAM prevalence has increased from 1.4% to 2% (National Nutrition survey, September 2017). Overall, 11 provinces (Oudalan, Kossi, Gourma, Tapoa, Tuy, Lorum, Zandoma, Seno, Soum, Yagha, Ioba) registered a GAM rate of above 10% (WHO’s critical threshold) with the highest rate in Oudalan (15%). In addition, total 620,394 people are expected to be “food insecure” (phases 3 and 4) in 2018 (OCHA, December 2017). Based on the National Nutrition Survey results (September 2017), the estimated caseload for SAM for 2018 has increased to 187,177 under-five children (Ministry of Health) from the initial estimate of 120,000 (HAC 2018). The situation of SAM among children is particularly precarious in four out of 13 regions (Sahel, East, Centre-North and North), representing 49% of the national caseload. The 2018 lean season is expected to be challenging due to rain shortfalls in the Sahel and poor availability of biomass. Considering other vulnerabilities such as increased level of conflict (limited access to health services, internal population displacement and reduced humanitarian/development assistance), a probable increase in malaria and diarrhoea incidences and cereal price increase, up to 276,734 under-five children may suffer from SAM in 2018 in Burkina Faso (inter-agency estimate, WCARO, Jan. 2018). UNICEF’s target for SAM treatment and budget requirement will be increased accordingly.
Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF strives to reduce vulnerabilities to humanitarian situations and various crises through a community-based approach to resilience building through partnerships with the Government and humanitarian actors at central and decentralized levels. In terms of coordination, UNICEF-Burkina Faso leads the sectoral partners’ groups in Nutrition and Education to ensure effective coordination among partners including emergency preparedness and response.

Programme Response

Nutrition

In response to nutrition crisis, UNICEF’s strategies include procurement of therapeutic food and supports to the identification, referral and access to quality nutrition services for children with SAM. UNICEF continues to strengthen the national capacity in facility-based Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) by ensuring training and supervision of health personnel and Community Health Workers (CHWs). In addition, UNICEF is targeting 400,000 pregnant and lactating women with children under 2 years through the community-based IYCF programme to prevent malnutrition and promote mass screening of children aged 6 to 59 months for early detection of SAM. The programmatic performance in 2017 was overall good, with all indicators for IMAM (Cured Rate, Death Rate and Default Rate) meeting SPHERE standards. However, deteriorated security and delay in the implementation of the new community health strategy in 2017 limited access to, and utilization of nutrition services by the population.

Education

UNICEF’s responses cross-cut the humanitarian-development nexuses through strengthening the complementarity and transition between both interventions. While the roll-out of “Safe Schools Strategy” as a part of the Child-Friendly School programme continues to build a long-term resilience of schools, psycho-social supports to teachers and provision of temporary classrooms and school materials will help children regain access to education. Innovative approaches like radio-based education will be piloted as a possible measure to enable students to continue their education from home, in time of insecurity. EduTrack will be operationalized in the Sahel region in February 2018, to collect real-time data on educational indicators from schools in hard-to-reach zones and will also serve as an early warning system.

Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements (US$)</th>
<th>Funds available (US$) (i)</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Funds Received Current Year (ii)</td>
<td>Carry-Over (iii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>20,000,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>250,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>7,600,000</td>
<td>0 (iv)</td>
<td>295,832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>44,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>2,410,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>42,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>917,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>42,247 (v)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>31,057,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>674,668</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(i) Funds available includes funding (emergency grants only) received against current appeal as well as carry-over from the previous year.
(ii) Funds available includes emergency grants (SM) and regular grants (SC) or Regular resources which are reserved for emergency responses including interventions to build resilience (such as the implementation of the Safe school strategy)
(iii) Cross-cutting funds such as Global Thematic Funds covering operational costs were included under the “carry-over” of nutrition, WASH, education and CP.
(iv) Education received 3,600,000 USD from Denmark (education thematic funds) and 700,000 USD from Norway for 2018 (no emergency grants) for strengthened resilience in schools in conflict-affected regions.
(v) Protection received 155,000 USD from Austria (non-emergency grant) for communication activities on child rights targeting host communities in the Sahel region.


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