



Woman receiving a Non-Food Item Kit in the spontaneous site of N’Goui, 12 km East of Diffa



Highlights

- UNICEF scaled up its response in Diffa region and monitoring by strengthening its presence in the field and supporting partners in the provision of basic social services to affected populations in spontaneous sites along the Route National 1 and in Bosso department.
- Nearly 9,000 children returned to school thanks to the partnership between UNICEF, the Ministry of Education and COOPI, which allowed the setting up of temporary learning spaces in spontaneous sites and the strengthening of existing school to host displaced students.
- UNICEF initiated a partnership with OCHA and IRC for the implementation of a Rapid Response Mechanism integrated in the existing humanitarian coordination. 4 multi-sectoral assessments were carried out, non-food items distributed to 1875 affected households (13,004 people, out of which 8,827 children <18) and emergency wash interventions guaranteed for 5,340 people.
- UNICEF and the UN System supported the government of Niger for the validation in January of the first multi-sectoral national policy on nutritional security. A national implementation plan for the new policy is currently being finalized.
- Elections took place in Niger on February 21st without any major incidents. Results are not yet available.

UNICEF's Response with partners

	UNICEF		Sector/Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)
# of men, women, girls, boys affected by the crisis in Diffa who have improved access to drinking water	20,000	4,800	194,970	24,712
# of school-aged girls and boys (7-14 yrs) with continued access to formal and non-formal education in Diffa	20,000	1,744	26,000	8,452
# of children (malaria) and women (antenatal consultation) who have access to life-saving interventions in the supported health districts	40,000	1,374		
# of children under-five with severe acute malnutrition admitted into therapeutic feeding programme in Diffa	14,338	440	14,338	440
# of children benefiting from psychosocial support through community - based recreational and socio-educational activities	40,000	3,847	62,905	5,081

1 March 2016

14,338

Children affected by SAM in Diffa region out of

400,794

Children affected by SAM nationwide

91,360

Est. refugee children from Nigeria affected out of

166,110

Refugees and returnees from Nigeria, and IDPs

(Etat Civile - Nov. 2015, registration currently ongoing)

55,079

Est. internally displaced children out of

100,145

Internally displaced people

(Temporary Data, registration ongoing)

UNICEF Appeal 2016

US\$ 39.5 million total

Nigeria+ 2016

US \$ 13.9 million

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

A number of simultaneous crises continued to have a major impact on humanitarian situation in Niger at the beginning of 2016, particularly insecurity, food and nutritional crises. During the month of November and December 2015, wider socio-political and security dynamics linked to the Nigeria crisis have deteriorated resulting with substantial humanitarian consequences. Official figures report over 310,000 people affected in 2015, with a massive movement of over 100,000 people in only 2 months, causing dramatic humanitarian consequences not only for the displaced population, but also for the host communities, suddenly overwhelmed by the massive arrivals and significant pressure on already limited resources.

Estimated Affected Population Based on HRP and HNO 2016			
	Total	Male*	Female
Total Affected Population	2,000,000	960,000	1,040,000
Children Affected (Under 18)	1,100,000	547,000	553,000
Children Under Five**	429,000	205,920	223,080
Children 6 to 23 months***	131,200	62,976	68,224
Pregnant women***	100,000	-	100,000
Children Under Five with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) at national level	400,794	192,381	208,413
Children Under Five with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in Diffa region (Nigeria + crisis)	14,338	6,882	7,456
Refugees and returnees from Nigeria ****	153,000	73,440	79,560
Refugee and returnees children from Nigeria (0-17 years old)	84,150	40,392	43,758
Internally displaced people in Diffa region	100,000	48,000	52,000
Internally displaced children (0-17 years old)	55,000	26,400	28,600

* Proxy calculated based on percentages from HNO and HRP: 55% children <18; 52 % women and 48% men

** Proxy DRSP 2016, 21.45%

*** Proxy DRSP 2016, 6.56%

****Proxy DRSP 2016, 5%

*****Based on HNO/HRP estimates

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF leads the Education and WASH Clusters and the Child Protection sub Cluster in close collaboration with government counterparts in Niamey, and supports the government in the leadership of the Nutrition working group. In Diffa, UNICEF supports regional authorities for the management of sectorial working groups. UNICEF and OCHA have initiated a process of revision and adaptation of the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) programme in collaboration with IRC. The RRM tools used by IRC, which started implementing the project in Niger in 2014, are being revised by clusters with the technical support of UNICEF. The government, through the Humanitarian Coordination Unit, has validated the RRM, under the condition that the operationalization is done through the existing coordination mechanisms in Diffa, led by the government. The operationalization has already been discussed with humanitarian actors in Diffa, and will be finalized by the regional coordination committee in Diffa after the elections.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF supports the Government's efforts to coordinate with line ministries and NGOs to expand essential services to emergency-affected populations through community-based interventions, including nutrition, health, WASH, education and child protection networks. The opening of the office in Diffa allows UNICEF to strengthen its monitoring and evaluation capacity in all sectors, to boost the humanitarian response and to guarantee a strong link between humanitarian and regular programs.

Summary Analysis of Programme response

Nigeria Crisis Response

UNICEF boosted its humanitarian response to the crisis in Diffa, and is particularly engaged in the response to the alarming gaps in water sanitation and hygiene (WASH). In January and February UNICEF and its partners provided access to safe water to 6,800 affected people in the Diffa region, including through the newly established rapid response mechanism (RRM) programme, while 600 people benefitted from access to latrines and 111,220 people benefitted from hygiene kits and sensitization activities on good hygiene practices. As of February 2016, Niger continues to be cholera free. Nevertheless, UNICEF continues to maintain a preparedness capacity in case of outbreak. The WASH sectoral group in Diffa region updated the WASH gap analysis, and the 16 priority sites with high number of displaced people the gap has

305 water points. Large gaps also remain in sanitation, 4,207 of both latrines and showers. In order to address these gaps UNICEF has signed 5 agreements with IRC, ACTED et IEDA totaling almost 2 million USD for cash and supply, while other WASH cluster partners (ACF, IRC, FICR, CICR, CARE, Plan Niger, ACTED, Demi-E/CRS and PGRC) remained engaged as well, guaranteeing access to safe water to overall 19,912 people. A 20,000 mc water cistern is currently being purchased to strengthen the capacity of the Regional Directorate for Hydraulic to provide emergency access to safe water.

As of 21st of February 2016 UNICEF in partnership with COOPI assured access to school to 1,744 children affected by the conflict through the setting up of 35 Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS), provided with hand-washing units, in seven spontaneous sites along the *Route Nationale 1*. Overall, 8,452 children affected by the conflict in the Diffa region are back to school in 30 regrouped school facilities, including in spontaneous sites, thanks to the collaboration between the regional directorate for primary education (DREP) and several partners. In addition to the direct interventions with COOPI, UNICEF also supported the DREP through the provision of text books for 8,452 students and 140 teaching materials. As for other education actors, under the coordination of education cluster, Plan International is supporting the DREP through the provision of 584 shelter box in spontaneous sites for teachers. WFP is assuring school feeding for 2496 students.

As for nutrition, as of February 14th, 2016 (week 6) 754 children (< 5 year) suffering from acute malnutrition have been admitted in OTP/ITP program including 156 cases with medical complications in Diffa region. A mission to evaluate the functionality of the CMAM centers has been conducted by the nutrition cluster coordinator from January 7th to 21st, 2016. APBE a national NGO has been contracted by UNICEF to evaluate the coverage of community screening of malnutrition.

A polio vaccination campaign reached 237,835 children (9 - 59 months), corresponding to a coverage of 111 %, with 27,975 children reached in spontaneous sites.

In January 2016, COOPI, SOS Villages d'Enfants, Plan Niger, IRC and World Vision International continued to implement psychosocial support and recreational activities for 5,081 children (including 2,684 girls) in the Diffa region and reached children in more than 30 sites in the Departments of Diffa, Bosso, Ngimi and Maine Soroa. Another 41 children were identified and received support from UNICEF partners and Child Protection Sub-Cluster members on displacement sites. With regard to the detention of minors in Diffa (11 minors allegedly suspected of association with the armed group and 9 minors in conflict with the law), UNICEF advocated with the Ministry of Justice for accelerated delivery of the newly-built Juvenile Detention Center in Diffa and for the transfer of minors to the new building, which took place on 25 January 2016. UNICEF provided non-food items (NFI) including mats, blankets, mattresses, buckets, kettles, etc.

In January and February, the UNICEF-OCHA supported RRM, implemented by IRC, carried out 4 Multi-Sectoral Evaluations in Diffa region and assisted 1,874 households with NFI kits (for NFI combined funding to IRC from ECHO).

Sahel Nutrition Crisis Response

The first multi-sectoral national policy on nutritional security have been technically validated by the CMP4 on 15th January 2016. It represents a major engagement on the fight against child malnutrition. From February 10-12th, 2016, the UN System (UNICEF, WFP, FAO and WHO) supported the government of Niger for the elaboration of the multiannual action plan of the nutritional security. All the stakeholders (Ministries, civil society, academic sector and local nutrition actors) were involved in this activity under the supervision of the Haut-Commissariat à l'Initiative 3N and with the support of REACH.

As of 7th of February 2016, 20,611 severe acute malnourished (SAM) children have been admitted in therapeutic feeding centres nationwide (out of a total of 400,794 projected cases), including 1,981 children with medical complications. This total admission figure for SAM children represents 5.1% of expected admissions for 2016. Compared to the same period in 2015 a 21% reduction in the admission is registered for CRENI/AS (24,977 in 2015 vs 20,611 in 2016), and of 12% (31,814 in 2015 vs 28,497 in 2016). The supply pipeline for SAM treatment (RUTF and essential medicines) is secured by UNICEF until end April 2016.

Oxfam in partnership with UNICEF have constructed and rehabilitated WASH facilities in 17 nutrition centres nationwide and implemented the WASH minimum package in communities with high malnutrition prevalence rates and at health centre level for 126 children with SAM as of end of January 2016.

Supply and Logistics

UNICEF is strengthening its contingency stock through the purchase of 1,500 NFI kits for RRM response in the Diffa region, 3,000 for the preparedness to the floods-season and to elections period, and is strengthening its wash stock through the purchase of Sanplat and bladders. Contingency stock for floods-season will be pre-positioned in Field Offices in Agadez and Maradi.

Media and External Communication

In order to shed light on the needs of the displaced people in the Diffa Region, a field mission was organized Jan 18-22 focusing on key interventions. Stories, photos and videos were produced on life-saving interventions and education, protection and access to WASH and health services - and shared with DOC. The blogging platform Voices of Youth also posted a piece by young activist (<http://bit.ly/23POg47>), publicized on Tumblr (<http://bit.ly/1NYIRNn>). Material was shared with our digital community (<http://on.fb.me/20PazEF>) with 37,416 people reached and nearly 200 posts shared by fans. Support was provided to a media team working for the Spanish newspaper El Pais (<http://bit.ly/1T2wcQh>).

Security

Security remained volatile due to the persistence of the terrorist threat on the borders with Mali and Nigeria and the risk of social unrest related to the organization of legislative and presidential elections. In anticipation of the elections, the office developed a contingency plan to complement the BCP and ensured MOSS and MORSS compliance. Frequent messages on preventive safety were disseminated to all staff. Facility Safety and Security Surveys were conducted. Access control system of the main office was upgraded. An armored vehicle was deployed in Diffa as preparedness for possible worsening of security situation in Diffa and safe evacuation if necessary. Bullet-proof jackets and other security equipment have also been deployed to UNICEF office in Diffa.

Funding

Appeal Sector	HAC 2016 Requirements	Nigeria+ Requirements	Funds received*	Funding gap (2016)	
				\$	%
WASH	5,217,600	2,580,991	-	5,217,600	100%
Education	3,000,000	3,000,000	-	3,000,000	100%
Health	980,000	480,000	-	980,000	100%
Nutrition	27,500,000	5,381,960	-	27,500,000	100%
Child Protection	1,668,671	1,668,671	-	1,668,671	100%
HIV and AIDS	150,000	150,000	-	150,000	100%
Cluster/Sector Coordination	1,000,000	700,000	-	1,000,000	100%
Carry-forward	6,318,366				
Unallocated balance	71,502				
Total	39,516,271		-	39,516,271	100%

* 'Funds received' does not include pledges

Next SitRep: 11/04/2016

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SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

Nigeria Crisis Response

	Overall needs	Cluster Response			UNICEF and IPs		
		2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼	2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE							
# of men, women, girls, boys affected by the crisis in Diffa who have improved access to drinking water	279,144	194,970	26,712	▲	20,000	6,800	▲
# of people affected by the crisis in Diffa with access to sanitation infrastructure taking into account accessibility for children, and the specific needs of women and men	279,144	268,605	6,600	▲	71,495	600	▲
# of people affected by the crisis in Diffa having access to hygiene kits and sensitization activities	558,289	537,211	114,241	▲	305,931	111,220	▲
EDUCATION							
# of school-aged girls and boys (7-14 years) with continued access to formal and non-formal education in Diffa	210,000	26,000	8,452	▲	20,000	1,744	▲
HEALTH							
# of children age between 9 months and 14 years vaccinated against measles in Diffa					100,000	ND	
# of children (malaria) and women (antenatal consultation) who have access to life-saving interventions through outreach community-based activities (mobile clinics)					70,000	ND ⁱ	
# of children (malaria) and women (antenatal consultation) who have access to life-saving interventions in the supported health districts					40,000	1,374 ⁱⁱ	▲
NUTRITION							
# of children under-five with severe acute malnutrition admitted into therapeutic feeding programme in Diffa		14,338	754	▲	14,338	754	▲
% of children under 5 year suffering of SAM discharged as recovered in Diffa		At least 75%	NA	NA	At least 75%	NA	NA
# of Health Centres with an integrated nutrition program		51	49	▲	51	49 ⁱⁱⁱ	▲
CHILD PROTECTION							
# of children who are benefiting from psychosocial support through community - based		62,905	5,081	▲	40,000	3,847	▲

recreational and socio-educational activities							
# of separated and/or unaccompanied children identified, documented and benefitting and placed in alternative care arrangements and / or who benefitted from individual follow up		1,318	41	▲	600	21	▲

Sahel Nutrition Crisis Response

	Overall needs	Cluster Response			UNICEF and IPs		
		2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼	2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE							
# of nutritional centres delivering the WASH minimum package	490	334	75	▲	144	75	▲
# of malnourished children admitted for SAM/MAM and benefitting WASH minimum package in the community	368,114	122,286	2166	▲	22,603	2166	▲
EDUCATION							
NO INDICATOR							
HEALTH							
# of children in humanitarian situation aged 0-11 months vaccinated against measles	1,013,382				1,013,382	NA	NA
NUTRITION							
# of children under-five with severe acute malnutrition admitted into therapeutic feeding programme	400,794	400,794	20,611	▲	400,794	20,611	▲
% of children under 5 year suffering of SAM discharged as recovered	At least 75%	At least 75%	NA		At least 75%	NA	
# of Health Centres with an integrated nutrition program	922	922	NA		922	NA	
CHILD PROTECTION							
Couples malnourished children/caregivers who receive psychosocial support in CRENI and CRENAs	16,519	16,519	NA		NA		

ⁱ Pas eu de clinique mobile au cours de ce mois
ⁱⁱ Uniquement les cas de paludisme. Pour les cas de pneumonie et de diarrhée le rapportage est trimestriel

ⁱⁱⁱ Les CSI de Dagaya et de Arikoukouri ne sont pas fonctionnels