Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Laboratory capacity across the country has increased from 15 to 26 in the last few weeks and has resulted in a gradual increase in testing. As of 22 May, over 43,000 people have been tested, out which 7,261 tested positive with 34 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) having reported at least one confirmed case. Within the reporting week, states that reported the highest number of cases were Lagos (676), Kano (86), Oyo (86), Federal Capital Territory (49), Rivers (46), Katsina (42), Plateau (36), Ogun (33), Borno (31), Edo (26) and Jigawa (20). Of the total admitted, 2,007 cases have been discharged and there have been 221 deaths recorded. On 18 May, the Nigerian government extended the reduced restrictions by two weeks as it intensifies efforts to test, trace, and treat cases. With the upcoming Eid al-Fitr celebrations, the Federal Government is encouraging people to observe the holiday at home to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

With the lockdown relaxed in Borno State, the epicentre of the north-east crisis, markets are reportedly busy and compliance with state rules on social distancing and use of facemasks is inadequate. The high-powered committee on the prevention and mitigation of COVID-19 in Borno, announced that Eid celebrations will go ahead this weekend under ‘strict preventative measures’. They have allocated specific grounds and hours for Eid prayers, placed hand sanitizers at strategic points, strongly encouraged the use of face masks and physical distancing, and advised all persons over 60 and those with chronic medical conditions to refrain from attending.

UNICEF’s COVID-19 response

**RCCE/C4D**

UNICEF activities continue to focus on sensitization and the capacity building of partners in all targeted states through mobile messages, radio, television, print materials and billboards. Video skits on key hygiene messages including hand washing with soap, staying at home and physical distancing and other key behaviours are being disseminated through social media platforms. A ‘COVID-19 Talk’ radio talk show ran for a second week in Enugu State with the stations providing 300 minutes of free airtime.

In Kano, UNICEF advocated to key community leaders including the leadership of the Shariah Commission, the Quadriyya Sect, Christian Association of Nigeria, and several others, to solicit for their commitment in educating their members and the general public on COVID-19 preventive measures. Two new radio jingles were aired in Hausa and English addressing the issue of physical distancing during the upcoming Eid al-Fitr festive season in Kano.

UNICEF supported awareness raising sessions for traditional and religious leaders in owning and being a voice for COVID-19 prevention in 16 LGAs of Ekiti State. Bauchi field office supported the sensitization of community, unions and associations including the National Union of Road Transport workers (NURTW) and Market leaders on COVID-19 prevention and identification of symptoms.

**North-east C4D response**

Weekly jingles continue to be aired on BRTV and Peace FM in Hausa and Kanuri in Borno State. Voluntary Community Mobilizers (VCMs) in Borno and Yobe continue to disseminate information in small groups where possible on COVID-19. VCMs continue to make wider use of the telephone tree in order to maintain contact with their community families for COVID-19 surveillance. Follow-ups with caregivers on routine immunisation has been intensified in six Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Borno.

**Health**

UNICEF continues to provide technical support to the Presidential Task Force and the NCDC. Within the reporting period, UNICEF supported data analysis to guide a more targeted response approach with intensified surveillance at LGA hotspots and building state level dashboards to track indicators and the implementation of community-based surveillance plans. UNICEF supported the development of training materials on community-based surveillance for primary and secondary health care workers (HCWs) and

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1 NCDC Sitrep May 16-20
2 Bayo, Biu, Kwaya Kusar, Askira/Uba, Gubio and Hawul
On Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), UNICEF is facilitating and participating in the ongoing State training of trainers (TOTs) for HCWs on COVID-19 response. Thus far, 156 participants have been trained in Ogun state, Zamfara (146), Adamawa (234), Ekiti (142), Gombe (119), Taraba (139), Bayelsa (80), Bauchi (254), Ondo (200), Osun (306), Borno (236), Rivers (230), Delta (185), Yobe (154) and Oyo (340).

On Case Management, UNICEF is supporting the accreditation of isolation-treatment centres across all 36 states and FCT. Two additional isolation centres in the FCT have most recently been assessed for readiness, with training on medical hygienists on infection prevention and control ongoing. Distribution of PPEs and ICU equipment to Federal Teaching Hospitals and Institutions (FTHIs) is ongoing and guidelines for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to COVID-19 patients has been developed, to be published on the FMOH and NCDC websites.

UNICEF Field Offices continue to provide ongoing technical support to the state Emergency Operational Centres (EOCs) on COVID-19 response:
- In Enugu state, UNICEF is supporting the development of training plans for state and LGA Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) and Points of Entry.
- UNICEF in Lagos is providing technical support in updating the state Incident Action Plan.
- In Kano, UNICEF provided technical support in the development of the Case Management Strategic Action Plan and the revision of the IPC workplan. UNICEF LGA facilitators supported intensified contact tracing activities in three metropolitan LGAs. UNICEF, along with partners is supporting the establishment of an accreditation committee for isolation centres.
- UNICEF in Sokoto FO has been proactively engaging with and supporting the state EOC on coordination and advocacy, especially involvement of partners in EOC activities. UNICEF supported the training of 40 people on contact tracing.
- In Bauchi State, a new laboratory has been activated in Yola. In Adamawa, UNICEF supported the establishment of a partners’ forum at the State EOC to strengthen coordination and harmonization of response to COVID-19.
- In Akure UNICEF supported the two-day training of 254 health workers in Osun state on active surveillance, case definition, and referral of COVID-19 to improve safe triaging and service delivery.
- In Osun state, UNICEF supported the assessment of the 160-bed isolation-treatment centre with planned upgrades of the facility by the state government. The facility was launched on 20 May 2020, increasing the total bed space in the state to 362 with an eight-bed intensive care unit (ICU).

**Nutrition**

Community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) services are fully functional and have continued to treat children 06 -59 months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Anambra, Bauchi, Bayelsa, Ebonyi, Delta, Enugu, Gombe, Imo, Jigawa, Kaduna, Katsina, Kano, Nasarawa and Niger states. The health facilities are integrating COVID-19 health messages during the SAM clinic sessions in addition to regular messaging. Remote monitoring of activities is ongoing through daily calls and WhatsApp group chats.

Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) services are on-going at health facility and community levels. As at today, a total of 898,749 caregivers of children aged 0-23 months have been reached with messages aiming to protect breastfeeding in the context of COVID-19 through national communication campaigns. In Kaduna, health workers have adopted two approaches to facilitate counselling; one-on-one or in small groups with the use of a projector.

Most of the states are presently using media communication to reach caregivers of children on the best practices for IYCF in the context of COVID-19. Video skits, picture cards, posters have been produced in local languages (Igbo and Pidgin English). Audio jingles have also been produced on recommended IYCF practices during COVID-19 and will be running weekly through radio stations (in Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu) and through television and telephone call-in interactive programmes (Jigawa, Kano and Katsina).

**North-east Nutrition response**

Sensitization of caregivers on COVID-19 infection, prevention and control at outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) sites and communities reached a total of 38,393 people in Borno. In Yobe, mother to mother support group meetings of caregivers held involving a total of 3,004 caregivers focusing on COVID-19 messaging and nutrition. Training on mother MUAC approach was provided to 214 caregivers in Borno.

**WASH**

**Hygiene Promotion and Distribution of IEC materials**

250 COVID-19 prevention posters were distributed across several LGAs in Kaduna state and were used to complement hygiene promotion campaigns and placed in critical places such as hospitals, markets, public offices and other common areas. The distribution and placement were carried out through the respective state Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agencies (RUWASSAs), LGAs WASH units, rapid response teams and hygiene promoters (HPs).

At the community level in Bauchi, Kano, Katsina, Ogun and Jigawa states, handwashing sensitization campaigns were carried out through small group discussions in indigenous languages, house to house visits and the use of town announcers with motorized public address units (through
the use of HPs, religious and traditional leaders), while observing appropriate safe distances and other COVID-19 prevention recommended best practices; reaching at least 239,250 persons.

As part of the handwashing campaigns, communities were mobilized to construct 58 tippy taps at households, public offices, health facilities, markets and motor parks.

**North-east WASH response**

During the reporting week, 305 COVID-19 awareness and prevention posters were distributed by partners in Gwoza and Dikwa LGAs, while 20,362 persons were reached with hygiene promotion and handwashing campaigns in Gwoza, Jere, Dikwa, Konduga and MMC LGAs of Borno State. Soap was also distributed to 1,514 households (4,863 individuals) to support handwashing campaigns. In Jere LGA state, seven handwashing facilities were installed at three camp entrances serving at least 700 persons.

In Adamawa state, 30 COVID-19 awareness and prevention posters were distributed in public places in Girei and Song LGAs, while 108 soap tablets were provided to a COVID-19 isolation centre with to support IPC measures. In Mubi North and Maiha LGAs, partners were supported to train private medical practitioners on COVID-19 infection prevention and control measures.

**Education**

With continued technical assistance from UNICEF, Federal and State Ministries of Education are engaging children in home-based learning platforms such as radio, television, online/internet and take-home resources. Thus far, an estimated 20 million children accessing learning and other academic opportunities through these alternate home-based modalities across 36 states. Continued support is also provided in mapping, contextualising and development of scripts for radio and TV programmes. Small scale assessment tools are being developed to measure the progress in learning to ensure the learning and skill acquisition of children.

Support was provided in the development of communication materials for children in the prevention and containment of COVID-19 such as leaflets, audio visual, and kids’ books. These educative materials have been disseminated for the benefit of over 22 million children across 36 states and FCT. Technical contributions were provided to the Federal Ministry of Education’s COVID-19 Education Strategic Response Framework and its Implementation Plan for the operationalisation of continuing learning and safe school reopening.

**Child Protection**

The number of children separated from their parents and affected by COVID-19 continues to grow with 217 new Almajiri children (all boys) received in Gombe from Adamawa State; 69 Almajiri children between 5-11 years, including 28 girls from Zamfara at an all-girls Almajiri school were moved from Kaduna to Zamfara State; 2,600 children (all boys) were moved from Kano to other states. In Gombe State, three out of a total 217 Almajiri children tested positive and are currently receiving treatment at the government isolation facility while 77 Almajiri children (all boys, with three having tested positive for COVID-19) in Adamawa are currently being registered using mobile CPIMs by trained government social workers.

In compliance with adopted child protection guidelines state governments have placed all the Almajiri children at temporary shelters where they are tested for COVID-19. After an observed two weeks under quarantine they are to be reunited with their families. While at the temporary shelter, the children have access to limited psychosocial support, improved knowledge on hygiene and sanitation as well as limited access to recreational and educational activities.

In Sokoto, some families were quickly located; enabling prompt family reunification processes, including the issuance of birth certificates for 23 Almajiri children. With the Emir’s active engagement, the National Population Commission (NPopC) are determined to track the families of the remaining 46 children and facilitate the issuance of birth certificates.

**Child Protection in Emergencies response**

UNICEF reached 30 children in alternative care arrangements; three women and eight standby foster parents with child protection messaging as well as awareness on COVID-19. Visit to children in foster homes are essential to ensure placement arrangements are ongoing and families are coping during COVID-19.
A total of 22,567 persons in Nigeria were reached with protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) messages through the U-Report platform and PSEA posters on how to access safe and secure reporting channels for allegations of SEA. Of this total, 11,922 persons (53%) were from conflict-affected Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states, while the remaining were reached across the country. The programme distributed 40,2020 posters (7,027 in English, 18,387 in Kanuri and 14,788 in Hausa) that increased outreach on awareness raising on the prevention of SEA and the reporting channels. The PSEA reporting channels received 93 calls and 40 messages from the dedicated phone lines from 20 States of Borno, Ebonye, Jigawa, Katsina, Plateau, Zamfara, Benue, Gombe, Bauchi, Abia, Yobe, Imo, Sokoto, Kebbi, Kano, Kaduna, Delta, Kogi, Nassarawa and Anambara States. Most of the callers sought for more information about PSEA, a few reported cases of violence against children (VAC) and GBV and were referred to relevant services, while others called regarding accessing humanitarian aid.

Adaptations to ongoing UNICEF programmes

UNICEF continues to support the federal and state governments in ensuring COVID proofing of existing programmes and continuity of essential service delivery. Under EU-funded CARAMAL Project implementation, NHKs (Nigeria Healthcare Kits) and RAS (rectal artesunate) were distributed through LGAs to restock community-oriented resource persons (CORPs) with integrated community case management (ICCM) commodities. UNICEF is providing technical support for the development and finalization of key program strategies and guidelines, namely, National Malaria guidelines, National Acceleration Plan on Paediatrics and Adolescents, Costed Investment Case for AYP HIV, Operational Guideline for Adolescent Girls and Young Women. UNICEF supported the vaccine and other immunization supplies forecast for 2021 and SIAs plan for measles and Yellow Fever. UNICEF continues to support the government in monitoring the immunization coverage rates.

UNICEF continues to innovatively support WASH interventions to ensure increased access to clean water and hygiene facilities to target beneficiaries. With the new emergency procurement process launched, UNICEF supported the government in building capacities in executing the e-procurement process to successfully initiate government-led WASH facility constructions in Bauchi, Benue and Kaduna states. Other plans to adapt WASH programmes across the country are ongoing as planned.

12 radio stations aired the EndFGM jingles while #endcuttingirls messages were uploaded in six media platforms (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, You Tube, Web site and WhatsApp). The potential reach of the messages on Twitter between 14 and 21 May was 35,439; Twitter reach were 218,000 impressions; and 100 retweets - thus amplifying states’ EndFGM intervention activities on the same platforms.

In addition, the jingles are ongoing across the South West with different EndFGM messages in English, Pidgin and Yoruba. The estimated number reached by the jingles were 187,000 as at 20 May 2020. In the South West states of Ekiti, Osun and Oyo, at least 27,222 persons were reached in 3,063 households during the inter-generational house to house community sensitization/mobilization sessions on ‘End FGM’ with integrated COVID-19 prevention messages. 57 members (33 in Oyo, 24 in Ekiti) participated in virtual coordination meetings which also reached high level government officials including the Commissioner for Health, the Permanent Secretary, Director of Public Health Department and the House of Assembly members Committee on Health.

UNICEF continued support and promote birth registrations across the country. In Sokoto, the Emir accepted to be a champion to promote birth registration within and outside the State. It is expected his influence will help promote birth registration activities and improve the reunification and reintegration process. Between 1 March and 20 May at least 687,406 (348,666 girls, 338,740 boys) under-5 children were registered.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

The Nigeria CO has developed an updated response plan outlining gaps and needs, COVID-19 proofing measures and response activities across all sections. USD 65 million is requested to support the government to respond to COVID-19 and reach an estimated 20 million Nigerians. ECHO Nigeria has provided UNICEF with 1.2 million Euros to support in risk communication and life-saving health and WASH supplies.

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3 [https://rapidsmsnigeria.org/br/2020/5](https://rapidsmsnigeria.org/br/2020/5)
UNICEF has aligned with global campaigns on COVID-19 and has been disseminating information through its social media network (Twitter: Facebook, Instagram).

- A story highlighting the critical work of those ensuring birth registration continues, despite the lockdowns, from the perspective of the registrar.
- Social media posts this week focused on thanking nurses for all they are doing to help support Nigeria during this time of COVID-19, especially for International Day of the Nurse. A poll was also published on Twitter, asking followers what the best way is to appreciate nurses during this period (correct answer: Stay home and stay safe – correctly answered by 79 percent)
- A press release revealing the numbers of additional Nigerian children who could die due to the knock-on effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This received significant media pick-up, including radio and television interviews with the UNICEF Representative.
- UNICEF launched a ‘COVID-19 Design Challenge’ for Nigerian youth, offering them the opportunity to find solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic (and post-COVID-19 challenges). Thousands of expressions have interest have already been received. Nigeria is the first country to launch the UNICEF challenge.
- A human-interest story highlighting the work UNICEF is doing to remove children from detention through ‘decongestion’ of detention centres was published, focusing on work in Cross River.

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### Annex A

**Summary of Programme Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2020 target</th>
<th>Total results&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Risk Communication and Community Engagement</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services</td>
<td>22,000,000</td>
<td>17,595,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>18,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms&lt;sup&gt;5&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2,020,000</td>
<td>601,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WASH and IPC</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services</td>
<td>1,340,782</td>
<td>255,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children and women receiving essential healthcare, including prenatal, delivery and postnatal care, essential new-born care, immunization, treatment of childhood illnesses and HIV care in UNICEF supported facilities.</td>
<td>6,061,266</td>
<td>1,904,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</td>
<td>780,586</td>
<td>33,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>28,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases</td>
<td>8,548</td>
<td>21,632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM)&lt;sup&gt;6&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>558,189</td>
<td>81,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of caregivers of children aged 0-23 months reached with messages aiming to protect breastfeeding in the context of COVID through national communication campaigns.</td>
<td>656,000</td>
<td>955,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children supported with distance/homebased learning</td>
<td>17,500,000</td>
<td>20,115,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child Protection and GBV</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children without parental or family care provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements</td>
<td>29,500</td>
<td>2,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support&lt;sup&gt;7&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2,605,000</td>
<td>167,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children and adults that have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse</td>
<td>498,067</td>
<td>144,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of UNICEF personnel and partners that have completed training on VAC/HP/GBV risk mitigation and referrals for survivors&lt;sup&gt;8&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>1121</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Protection</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of households (affected by COVID-19) receiving humanitarian multi-sector cash grant for basic needs</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<sup>4</sup> Results are cumulative from March 2020

<sup>5</sup> 68,200 persons reached through UNICEF advocacy/technical/mobilization support, using government funds

<sup>6</sup> Target is calculated as all children with SAM from March 2020 to December 2020 including HRP, HRP addendum and estimated caseloads

<sup>7</sup> Indicator broken down to 5,000 CP and 2,000,000 Education and 100,000 CP and 500,000 Education (NE)

<sup>8</sup> Indicator broken down to 250 CP and 500 Education and 221 CP and 150 Education (NE)