



Reporting Period: 01 January to 30 June 2021

NIGER

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 03

unicef
for every child

Highlights

- Since the beginning of the year, children have been increasingly exposed to multiple risks, including separation from families, violence, sexual abuse, trauma, child labor and recruitment by non-state armed groups. As of June 30, 2021, 377 schools were closed nationwide due to insecurity (21% more than in 2020).
- In May 2021, an armed attack in Tillia (Tahoua region) caused further population displacement and led to the kidnaping of 4 boys and the killing of 137 people, including 29 children (3 girls). UNICEF and its partners identified 7 separated children (all boys) and referred them to a temporary hosting family.
- 21 children died in a fire incident in a school in Niamey in April. UNICEF provided 620 desks, 30 chairs, 30 easel boards as well as school bags, textbooks and other educational materials for the benefit of the 4,000 pupils and the 30 teachers attending the school destroyed by the fire.
- Since the beginning of the year, 205,363 children aged 9 months to 14 years were vaccinated against measles with UNICEF support, which represents 171% of the annual target. This result is due to the emergency immunization response to the ongoing measles epidemic.
- From April to June, the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) recorded 42 alerts on displacements of population and conducted 24 evaluations including 12 multisector assessments in the Diffa, Maradi, Tahoua and Tillabéri regions. RRM actors also provided NFI kits to 23,514 people, shelter assistance to 16,069 beneficiaries, and WASH assistance to 32,444 beneficiaries.

Situation in Numbers

2 million

children in need of humanitarian assistance

3.8 million

people in need (OCHA, Humanitarian Response Plan - HRP Niger 2021)

457,200

children affected by SAM nationwide (OCHA, HRP Niger, 2021)

78.000

Internally displaced children in Tillabéri / Tahoua, out of

140,000

Internally displaced people in Tillabéri / Tahoua (UNHCR, May 2021)

45,071

Refugee children in Maradi, out of

80,896

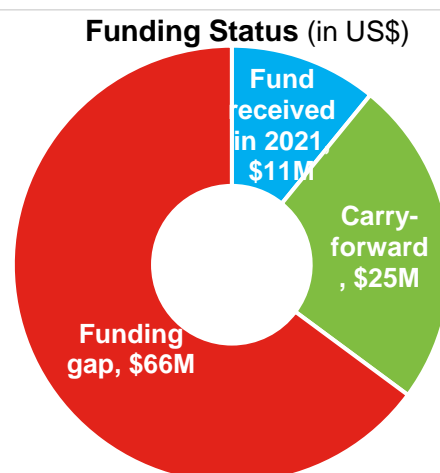
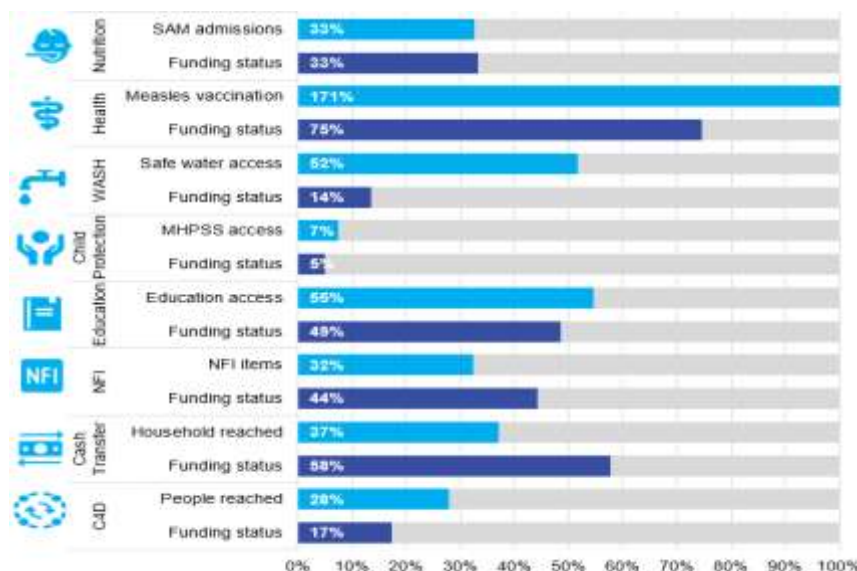
Refugees in Maradi (UNHCR, June 2021)

641,731

people affected by floods (Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management, 17/11/2020)

UNICEF Appeal 2021

US\$ 102 millions



*Funding available includes carry-over and funds received in the current year.

Funding Overview and Partnership

In 2021, after a needs review based on updated data, UNICEF Niger is appealing for US\$ 102.2 M to provide life-saving services to children and women affected by multiple crises in the country. In partnership with the government, NGOs and other humanitarian actors UNICEF with the support of its donors, will contribute to the implementation of the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan.

While carry-over funds from 2020 amount to US\$ 24.8 M (including US\$ 17.8 M mobilized for the COVID-19 response), a total of US\$ 11.3 M has been contributed to the emergency response in the second quarter of the year. Consequently, the overall funding gap, including for COVID-19 related programmes, remains at US\$ 66.3 M (65%), with Child Protection and WASH programmes being the most underfunded, closely followed by Community engagement (C4D) and Nutrition.

UNICEF Niger would like to express its sincere gratitude to Sweden for the flexible funds provided against the HAC 2021 appeal. These will allow to target urgent needs in underfunded programme areas. Furthermore, UNICEF thanks all donors including ECHO for its support to Nutrition programme and Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), Italy for supporting the RRM, Romania for its contribution to Education and the Bureau of Population, Refugee and Migration (United States of America) for the support to the COVID -19 response. Together we will continue to strive for results for children and their families.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Humanitarian Needs Overview: According to the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) published in January 2021, 3.8 million people in Niger need humanitarian assistance, including 2.1 M children. Niger continues to face acute and chronic humanitarian crises which, throughout 2020, were further exacerbated by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and continuous deterioration of the security situation increasing needs and constraining access to beneficiaries, especially the most marginalized. Indeed, the needs analysis shows the persistence of five major crises affecting the country: population movements due to insecurity, armed conflict, and irregular migration; epidemics including the COVID-19 pandemic and measles; floods and other natural disasters; food insecurity; and malnutrition. The 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), launched in February 2021, targets 2,1 M people for receiving humanitarian assistance, 1,5 M people for life-saving interventions, with a total budget of 523,2 M USD.

Following the release of the 2021 HRP, the 2021 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) for Niger was reviewed to update the situation analysis, the needs, the targets and the funding requirement , also to take in consideration the deterioration of the situation in the first part of the year. In 2021, UNICEF planned to deliver humanitarian assistance to 1,4 M people, including 1 M children. During the first semester, UNICEF was able to reach 456,980 people (32% of the target), including 236,167 children (23%). The number of children targeted by UNICEF through its child protection assistance represents 43.5% of the total number of children targeted in 2021. As of the end of June, only 10.3% of the results has been reached. More actions are needed from UNICEF and its partners to increase the number of children benefitting the humanitarian assistance, especially in child protection.

In the first semester, insecurity spread at a rapid pace in Niger and the increasing number of attacks along the borders with Burkina Faso, Mali and Nigeria have led to significant displacements in the country and continue to wreak havoc on the lives of hundreds of thousands of children. Moreover, the sharp increase in insecurity and movement restrictions imposed by the Government have hampered humanitarian actors' access to conflict- and crisis-affected populations. UNICEF calls on all stakeholders to respect humanitarian spaces that allow safe and sustainable access to deliver humanitarian assistance to affected population, including women and children.

The Government of Niger launched a return campaign, which aims to allow IDPs to re-join their villages they fled because of insecurity or other shocks. UNICEF contributed to the development of a note by the Humanitarian Country team providing guidance to the humanitarian community about this process. Lack of reliable data and information, absence of a joint operational planning with the government, weak coordination among humanitarian and development actors and doubts about the voluntarism of the return by IDPS are among the main challenges.

In partnership with government and NGOs, UNICEF continues to provide multisectoral and coordinated assistance to the affected population, both through an emergency approach to assist the most vulnerable populations immediately after a shock, and through longer term interventions to guarantee durable solutions.

COVID-19 pandemic: Following the confirmation of the first positive case of COVID-19 on March 19th, 2020 in the capital city Niamey, UNICEF has been working closely with the Government and its partners to step up the response and prevent further proliferation of the COVID-19 pandemic across the country, already facing the consequences of multiple crises (nutrition, conflicts, natural disasters). As of 30th June, out of 118,441 tested people, Niger registered 5,489 cases of COVID-19, 5,206 patients healed, 193 deaths and 90 active cases, among them 16 in hospitals. A significant decrease in the positive rate of the COVID-19 test rates as well as in the number of alerts. Most of the cases were identified among the migrants in Agadez region and the travelers in Niamey region. The case fatality rate is 3.5% and the cure rate is 95%. COVID-19 vaccination campaign is undergoing in all the 8 regions of the country, where 89% of vaccination sites are functioning.

As of June 27, a total of 290,366 people was vaccinated, 78% of the 369,090 people targeted in the first phase, while 51,622 people received also the second phase. Among them, 265 minor cases of adverse events after immunization (0.1%) and 7 serious cases were notified. The trend in the number of doses administered since the start of vaccination shows that only the regions of Maradi and Niamey have each administered more than 80% of the vaccines received. The consumption of vaccine doses was 69% (469,426 doses), with a better consumption of the SinoPharm vaccine compared to the AstraZeneca one. The communication activities about vaccination are ongoing with different modalities: community level discussion, interpersonal communication, mass communication, capacity building. Door-to-door awareness campaign implemented by 6,473 field workers allows UNICEF and its partners to reach 1,952,164 people through the various messages and channels used. Tv spots, radio messages, blogs, and other mass communication continues, and 1,878,562 people were reached through community radio.

Main challenges are the complete utilization of AstraZeneca vaccines before the expiration date at the end of July and the resourced mobilization to cover operational costs of the campaign, considering the difficulty from the government to respect their engagements.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

Since the beginning of the year, UNICEF continues to support the Ministry of Health for the management of severe wasting in children nationwide, and for the prevention of malnutrition in all its forms. In collaboration with other UN agencies, UNICEF has been refining the multi-sectoral action plan for the prevention and treatment of child wasting in Niger. The next step will consist of determining the budget for the priority actions identified across the different systems (food system, health system, WASH environment, social protection system).

Lake Chad Basin crisis

According to DHIS-2, 8,147 under-five children suffering from severe wasting (representing 30% of the annual target) were admitted for treatment in 2021 in the Diffa region between January and June 2021. As compared to the same period in 2020 (January to June), this represents a reduction of 7%.

Mali Border crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

According to DHIS-2 data available as of 5th of July 2021, 42,851 under-five children suffering from severe wasting were admitted for treatment in Tahoua and Tillabéri regions (representing 38.8% of the annual target) between January and June 2021. As compared to the same period in 2020 (January to June), this represents an increase of 6%.

Nutrition situation at national level

From January to June 2021, 149,358 under-five children suffering from SAM were admitted for treatment (representing 32.7% of the annual target), including 14,817 cases with medical complications. As compared to the same period in 2020 (January to June), this represents a reduction of 11%. UNICEF continues to ensure timely delivery of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) and other nutrition supplies to health districts and health facilities and is prepared to respond to a potential increase in the number of children to be treated for severe wasting during the coming months.

Health

UNICEF was able to support the Ministry of Public Health in the response to the measles epidemic thanks to the emergency thematic funds. However, given the large number of cases, the doses of vaccines available quickly became insufficient. The contribution of the UNICEF partner (Médecins Sans Frontières) made it possible to cover the gap.

Lake Chad Basin crisis

During the reporting period, more than 90 health workers were trained, from May 17, 2021 to June 12, 2021 in three sessions, on the effective management of vaccines and the vaccine techniques with the UNICEF support. The health district of N'Guigmi has also started setting up community mediators as part of community monitoring of Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT). Thus, 7 HIV mediators were trained and began to work in the community. Awareness campaigns and HIV screening in refugee and displaced camps were carried out in the health district of Maine-Soroa. A total of 1341 people were sensitized, 261 people accepted voluntary screening including 3 who have been tested positive to HIV and have received treatment at the Maïné Soroa District Hospital.

Mali Border crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

11,600 people (6,409 women) were reached by healthcare treatment in the Tillabéri region, as part of the advanced and mobile outings to populations who have suffered from flooding. In the same framework, 3,289 children (1,649 girls) under 5 were vaccinated against measles and other antigens. In community care for children under 5 in emergency situations, 637 children were treated for respiratory infection, 99 children treated for diarrhoea, and 765 children treated for uncomplicated malaria.

COVID-19 Response

The construction of 13 triage centres in the health district of Gaya has been completed. A total of 20 health districts and 4 public health regional directorates in the regions of Agadez, Diffa, Dosso, Maradi, Tahoua, Tillabéri and Zinder, were supported through funding for coordination meetings at both regional and district level. As a result, a total of 65 meetings were held, considerably contributing to the timely implementation of the COVID-19 response plan.

National Level and Others Crisis

At the national level, 9,204 cases of measles had already been registered in the country at the end of June, with 5 health districts having exceeded the epidemic threshold. UNICEF has supported part of the responses through the procurement and supply of vaccines and technical support. As a result, 205,363 children aged 9 months to 14 years were vaccinated with UNICEF support since the beginning of the year, which represents 171% of the annual target.

WASH

Lake Chad Basin crisis

In Diffa region, 6,800 affected people were provided with access to safe drinking water to respond to their long-term needs with UNICEF support. WASH Cluster partners provided 11,017 affected people with access to sanitation infrastructures and reached 15,936 people with hygiene promotion.

In addition, a humanitarian program document was prepared and signed with an international NGO in support to the WASH in malnutrition response.

Mali border crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

748 affected people were provided with access to safe drinking water to meet their long-term needs in Tillabéri and Tahoua regions with UNICEF support. WASH Cluster actors provided (1) 6,541 affected people with access to safe drinking water to respond to their immediate needs; (2) 468 affected people with sanitation infrastructures and (3) reached 20,181 people with sensitization activities. In addition, UNICEF supported 2,643 malnourished children admitted for SAM/MAM with WASH-in-Nut kits in Tillabéri region.

COVID-19 Response

As co-lead of the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Commission, UNICEF continued supporting both coordination and response activities. 3 coordination meetings were held, and 2 consolidated reports were produced on the activities implemented and outstanding gaps. On the response side UNICEF supported the strengthening of the health system by conducting 4 rounds of 2 days trainings on IPC for 166 government health workers. These

include 90 medical and 28 environmental cleaning staffs from Tillabéri and 48 sanitation and hygiene technicians serving in 7 regions (11 in Maradi, 9 in Zinder, 8 in Tahoua, 7 in Dosso, 6 in Tillabéri, 4 in Agadez and 3 in Diffa). Additionally 100 handwashing devices were locally manufactured and placed in 3 Health Centers, 22 public transport stations, 2 public administration offices and 16 universities and was provided with soap to promote and support handwashing and prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus and other water related diseases.

Meanwhile access to water supply and sanitation in 3 health facilities,, including 1 regional hospital, 1 mother and child centre

and 1 integrated health centre are being reinforced through the ongoing construction of 3 overhead tanks, connection of care rooms to the network and construction of 1 incinerator.

National Level and Others Crisis

Since the beginning of the year, 195,319 people accessed a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene with UNICEF support. This result represents 52% of the annual target. In preparedness to the floods, UNICEF procured and prepositioned WASH supplies in its central warehouse in Niamey and in 4 warehouses in the regions (Regional Directorate of Water and Sanitation of Maradi, Dosso, Agadez and Tillabéri). Additionally, standby agreements (humanitarian program documents) covering the entire country were prepared and signed with 3 NGO partners to address floods, epidemic situations including cholera, and population displacement and will be activated as and when needed.

The main challenges of the WASH humanitarian response are security, which often limits access to people in need, and the underfunding of the humanitarian response. In addition, the Niger Government's strategy of return of IDPs to their villages of origin remains a challenge in terms of coordination between humanitarian and development actors.

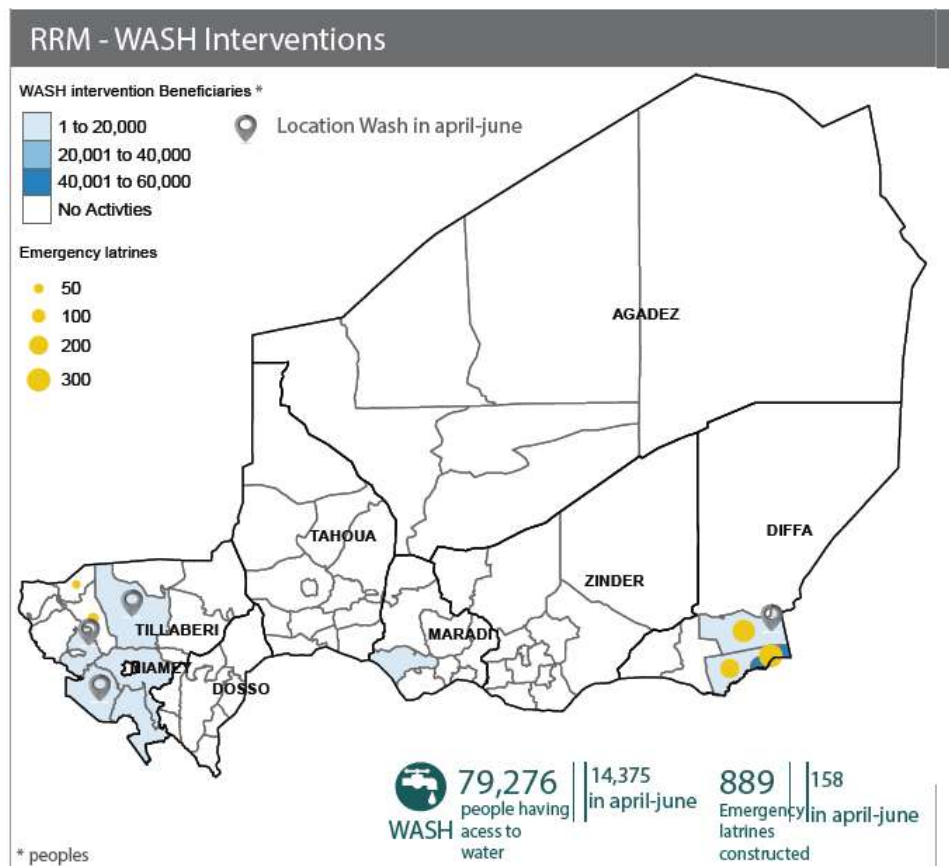
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

Lake Chad Basin crisis

During the reporting period, Diffa region was marked by attacks targeting military positions in Maine Soroa, Diffa and Bosso. Important child protection incidents resulting from these attacks were documented: 1 child dead during the attack in Diffa and 2 children (1 boy and 1 girl) injured in Bosso; 8 children victims of Improvised Explosive Equipment in Chétimari municipality, including 3 children dead. The other 5 children among these victims continue to receive medical care at the Regional Hospital Center (3 girls and 2 boys) as well as psychosocial support with social workers from the Regional Directorate of the Child Protection (DRPE) and finally 8 children (2 boys, and 6 girls) kidnapped at N'Guigmi and Chétimari municipalities. In this difficult security context, UNICEF and its partners (DRPF / PE and COOPI NGO) took care of 998 children (456 girls and 542 boys) who benefited from recreational activities. 100 community workers (48 women) were trained in psychosocial support (PSS) in emergency situations by the UNICEF partner COOPI.

Mali Border Crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

During the armed attack in Tillia (Tahoua region) on May 2021, 137 people were killed, among them 29 children (3 girls), and 4 boys kidnapped. This attack caused the displacement of populations. The humanitarian community was



mobilized to provide responses to strengthen the resilience capacity of these communities. UNICEF and its partners identified 7 separated children (all boys) and referred to a host temporary family.

Since the beginning of the year, children are exposed to multiple risks including separation from biological parents, violence, sexual abuse, trauma, child labor and recruitment by non-state armed groups. UNICEF and its implementing partners (DRPE, ANTD and COOPI) have contributed to strengthening the protection system and responding to the needs of children. 2,057 children (850 girls), benefited from awareness sessions on protection issues in emergency situations and preventive measures against COVID-19. 574 children (300 girls) received psychosocial support activities through 10 child friendly spaces managed by the UNICEF partner COOPI at IDP sites. 20 separated children identified were also received psychosocial assistance before the family reunification.

National Level and Others Crisis

In Niamey, UNICEF assisted 7 Children associated with armed force groups in the Transit and Orientation Center. 05 children were reunified with their families by an UNICEF partner: 03 children from the Diffa region and 02 others from the Republic of Cameroon.

UNICEF assisted 15 unaccompanied children (12 Boys / 3 Girls) and 413 vulnerable children (240 girls and 173 boys) received psychosocial support in child friendly spaces, 55 separated children (39 boys and 16 girls) were reunified with their families.

In Agadez, from April to June, 545 children (289 girls) on the move were assisted and protected through Agadez's OSSWS¹. All the children received alternative care, psychosocial support under the management of the Regional Directorate in charge of Child protection (DRPE) and technically and financially supported by UNICEF. They were all reunified within a week with their families.

Education

Lake Chad Basin crisis

During the reporting period, UNICEF supported the Regional Directorate of the Primary Education (DREP) in Diffa, with the training of 597 teachers in psychosocial support. These teachers supervised 49,610 children (23,394 girl). During the same period, emergency response plans (including COVID-19 response plan) were implemented in 126 schools of the region with UNICEF support. 31,500 students benefitted from this activity.

45 teachers supervising 2,279 children were trained on psychosocial support and 8,496 students gained access to education with the support of the Education Cluster members.

Mali Border Crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri régions)

UNICEF through its partner Israeli Committee against House Demolitions (ICAHD) supported 32 primary schools in Tahoua and Tillabéri with the implementation of risk preparedness, and emergency response plans including COVID-19 response plan. 6,092 children (2,844 girls) had access to education and 9,954 received school materials with the support of the Education Cluster members.

National Level and Others Crisis

4,000 children attending the School "Pays-Bas" in Niamey, received school bags, textbooks and other educational materials from UNICEF, after the fire destroyed their school. UNICEF also provided 620 desks, 30 chairs and 30 easel boards for the benefit of the 4,000 pupils and the 30 teachers.

In the first half of the year, security challenges have impacted the implementation of activities in the Tahoua and Tillabéri regions. 377 schools were closed nationwide due to insecurity by June 30, 2021. This number was 312 in December 31, 2020. UNICEF continues to support the Ministries of Education in covering the education needs of children.

COVID-19 Response

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Education activities and services continued to be implemented during the reporting period, while adopting the protective measures.

Social Protection and Cash Transfers

Lake Chad Basin crisis

¹ One Stop Social Welfare Shops

In April 2021, through the RRM program and its partner International Rescue Committee (IRC), UNICEF provided multisectoral assistance via the humanitarian cash transfer to 87 displaced households (529 people) in Nguel-Lamido (Mainé Soroa), 176 households (1,029 people) on the site of displaced people in Ari Nguirguidiri (city of Diffa) and 125 households affected by flooding (781 people) in the Festival-Sabon Carré district (city of Diffa). Post-distribution evaluations were carried out for all these interventions to monitoring their effects.

National Level and Others Crisis

In June 2021, UNICEF provided technical and financial support to the government of Niger in its final phase of the National COVID-19 emergency cash transfer programme with 32,659 beneficiaries of the one-off COVID-19 emergency cash transfer identified in 222 villages in Tahoua, Dosso and Tillabery regions. The cash distribution scheduled to take place during July 2021 will be accompanied with COVID-19 prevention and nutrition messages.

About its cash transfer strategy implementation in Niger, UNICEF succeeded in materializing the first entry point for cash transfers in the rapid response mechanism (RRM). From capacity building of partners to the implementation of cash pilot projects, UNICEF provided assistance to 1,858 vulnerable households through the humanitarian cash transfer (including 1,043 households through the RRM with direct funding from UNICEF, 815 households through the RRM consortium with technical support from UNICEF).

During the month of June 2021, UNICEF and its partners organized a workshop on lessons learnt from the implementation of the pilot projects within the RRM. Based on the results achieved, the cash transfer has been integrated as an RRM intervention modality for the years 2021 and 2022.

Discussions have been initiated with headquarters in New York to facilitate the country office access to the use of the Humanitarian Cash Operation and Ecosystem Program (HOPE) to facilitate efficient data management in humanitarian cash transfers.

To facilitate the scaling up of the strategy, UNICEF has launched a call for expressions of interest for a "Standby Agreement" between UNICEF and the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) for the response to emergencies through humanitarian cash transfers in Niger. This will make it possible to have a roster of pre-identified partners capable of using this response modality in the various sectors.

UNICEF continues 1) the capacity building of the partners involved in the implementation of the cash transfer strategy; 2) the mobilization of funds for the scaling up of the strategy and 3) the strengthening of the data management system.

C4D, community engagement and AAP

Since January 2021, UNICEF implemented community engagement activities (group and individual) to inform and pull for action.

Lake Chad Basin crisis

In Diffa, 47 Community dialogues have been carried out within IDPs, refugees and hosting population, encouraging families and social systems to protect children living in a violent context, separated and those who could be potentially hired by NSAGs. A total of 14,326 persons reached through these group sessions. 187 Community volunteers (Goudoumaria, Mainé Soroa, Diffa, Bosso and N'Guiguimi), had been trained on securing drinking water, in solicitation of social services and to the use of the feedback mechanism. 16,832 households benefited from these activities. 31 advocacy actions had been realized targeting canton chiefs, sultans, and prefects on social cohesion.

COVID-19 Response

During the reporting period, the COVID-19 mass-vaccination started in all the regional capitals of the 8 administrative entities of the country. 67 radios (public, private and community) have been involved in the promotion of the COVID-19 vaccination, airing vaccination messages three times a day. This mass-communication allowed to reach 2,156,984 persons. Furthermore, health workers (287) and Community workers (3,684) had been trained on COVID-19 essential messages on vaccination and to mitigate rumors and the "infodemia".

National Level and Others Crisis

UNICEF is supporting cohesion activities implemented in IDPs, refugees and hosting populations sites, promoting community dialogues (home visits, group discussions, lectures, etc.) and mass-distribution of essential information through community radios. 935,672 people has been reached through these interventions. However, the main

challenge for the implementation of the activities remains the population movement because of the NSAG threats, the access issues (security) and the rejection of the authority of community leaders.

Non-Food Items (NFI)

In 2021, the rapid response Mechanism (RRM) continued to be on high demand to response to humanitarian shocks in the 4 regions in crisis and continue to be one of the major humanitarian mechanisms for the response.

Lake Chad Basin crisis

During the reporting period, UNICEF, through RRM implementing partners, supported 5,395 people affected by conflicts in Diffa region, through the distribution of 445 NFI kits.

Mali Border crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

In Tahoua and Tillabéri regions, UNICEF, through RRM implementing partners, supported 12,922 people affected by conflicts in Tahoua and Tillabéri region, through the distribution of 1,800 NFI kits.

Maradi

During the same period, UNICEF, through RRM implementing partners, supported 5,197 people affected by conflicts in Maradi region, through the distribution of 593 NFI kits.

National Level

Between April and June, the RRM mechanism assisted 23,514 people (13,999 children) through the distribution of 2,838 NFI kits, 16,069 (8,828 children) through the distribution of 2,415 shelter kits and WASH assistance to 32,444 beneficiaries. Since January 1, 2021, 55,467 people (21,719 children) have been assisted through the distribution of 6,274 NFI kits, 37,396 (8,828 children) through the distribution of 5,353 shelter kits and WASH assistance to 79,276 beneficiaries.

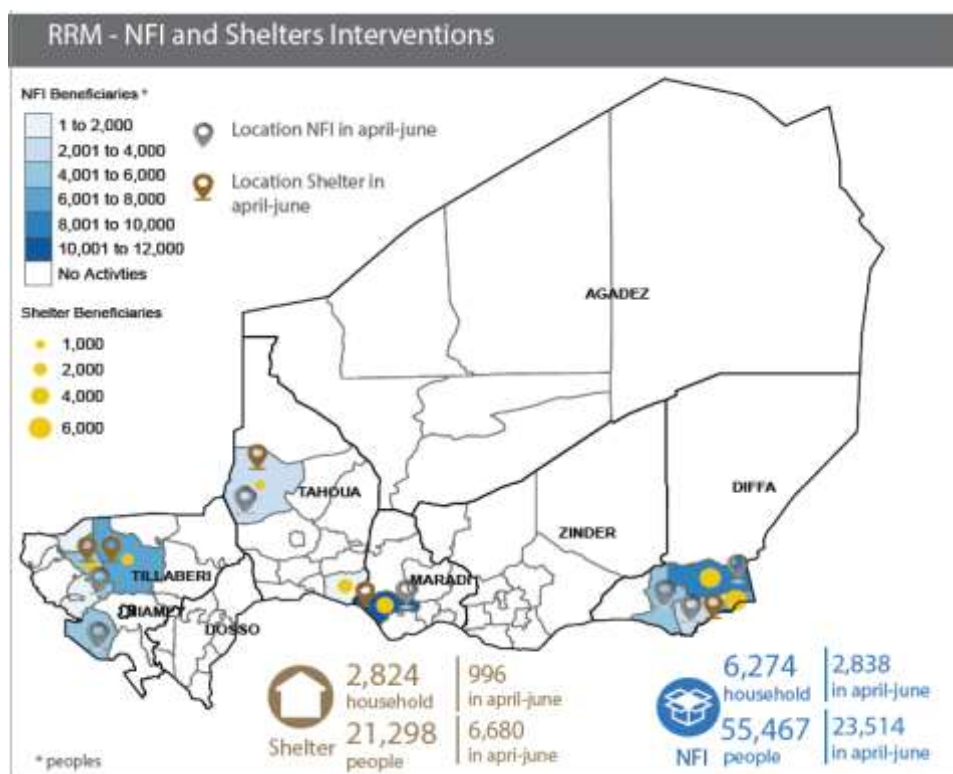
The 6th of May 6, RRM organized the RRM food security technical day on in partnership with WFP. On June 17, 18 and 19, UNICEF organized the annual RRM strategic workshop, which brought together some 40 participants over 3 days, including members of the RRM common framework including NGOs and UN agencies, relevant clusters/WGs, as well as RRM donors, based in Niamey and from the RRM priority regions (Tillabéri, Tahoua, Diffa, Maradi).

UNICEF has also signed in May and June 2 additional RRM projects (ECHO and AICS), allowing to support the RRM through the purchase of NFI kits, the technical coordination and the support to the RRM nutrition logistics (pilot project to support the last mile supply chain between health districts and CSIs, for nutritional inputs). The purchase process have been launched.

The security situation remains unstable in the four regions of operation of the RRM, which is causing significant population movements, particularly in the Tillabéri and Diffa regions. The delay in signing the new RRM contracts may cause shortages of BNA inputs compared to the needs of the population, and UNICEF expects this situation to be resolved by the end of August with the arrival of purchase orders.

RapidPro²

Since the beginning of the year, UNICEF continued the extension of the RapidPro system with the training of focal points in Diffa, Tahoua and Maradi. The sections integrated in the platform are: WASH, Child Protection, Education and Communication for Development. UNICEF also integrated the RapidPro collection tool under a community



² <https://rapidproniger.azurewebsites.net/>

approach developed by the UNICEF in Maradi and Tahoua as part of the resilience program and financed by the BMZ³. The training aims to reach focal points in the municipalities and villages in the different regions of the country. From April 2021, 5,181 primary and secondary schools out of 6,427 registered schools sent full reports on indicators for monitoring Education indicators and the COVID-19 pandemic impact. 942 reports on water point performances were received out of the 1,134 expected reports and 693 alerts were registered, out of which 131 were addressed. 431 out of 1,203 expected reports were received on child protection indicators. A new functionality has been added to the tool, which allow the managers to validate data sent by the focal points, and thus improve data quality. UNICEF is continuously supporting technical work to improve the tool and to meet the needs of partners.

Sector	Real time reporting on alerts and the functionalities of services			
	Received reports	Target reports	Registered alert reports	Addressed alert reports
WASH	942	1134	693	131
Education	5 181	6 427	74	-
Child protection	431	1203	61	-

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

During the reporting period, UNICEF together with the Directorate of Nutrition and partners from the Nutrition Technical Group organized a capacity strengthened workshop for regional actors on nutrition emergency preparedness and response. This included the identification of actions to improve coordination for nutrition at regional levels, and participants started developing emergency preparedness plans which are specific to the situation and risks in their respective Regions. The workshop targeted the Niamey, Maradi, Tahoua, Tillabéry and Zinder Regions.

As a member of the UN Common Cash System in Niger, UNICEF Niger participated in the review of the implementation of the joint declaration between WFP, UNHCR, OCHA and UNICEF on collaborative procurements for pilot countries of the projects. Moreover, as member of the Multisectoral Cash Working group (MSCWG), UNICEF contributed, at the level of the technical sub-group in charge of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), to the validation of the first phase of the MEB tool with the technical governmental services of Niger and to the validation of the 4W for cash transfers for the year 2020.

As part of the Humanitarian Country Team, UNICEF contributed to the implementation of the strategy and terms of reference for Accountability to Affected Populations (PAA) and to the redaction of the note about durable solutions ad return.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

HAC 2021 joint communication and advocacy initiative with UNICEF Geneva, PFP and the Regional Office

- Production of a HAC-related report, entitled: [Suffering in Silence: More than 2.1 million children need humanitarian help in Niger](#)
- Press release : [More than 2.1 million children caught up in a humanitarian crisis in Niger](#)
- Multimedia assets: <https://weshare.unicef.org/Package/2AMZIFHT12EL>

Briefing session with National Committees (on 1 July 2021):

- French Natcom : [AU NIGER, PLUS DE 2,1 MILLIONS D'ENFANTS SOUFFRENT EN SILENCE ; PLUS DE 2,1 MILLIONS D'ENFANTS PRIS DANS UNE CRISE HUMANITAIRE AU NIGER](#)
- Italian Natcom : [Rapporto "Suffering in silence": in Niger oltre 2 milioni di bambini colpiti dalla crisi umanitaria](#)
- UK Natcom : [more than 2.1 million children caught up in humanitarian crisis in Niger](#)
- Spanish natcom : [Requieren ayuda humanitaria en Níger 3,8 millones de civiles](#)

Geneva Palais Briefing with international media on the humanitarian situation in Niger: [Geneva Palais briefing note on the situation of children in Niger](#)

- UN News : [Au Niger, plus de 2,1 millions d'enfants souffrent en silence \(UNICEF\)](#)
- VOA News : [More Than 2 Million in Niger Face Humanitarian Crisis, UN Agency Says](#)

³ German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

- UN News : [More than 2 million children's lives being 'torn apart' in Niger, says UNICEF](#)

Press release and statement

- 14 April : [UNICEF statement following the death of at least 20 children trapped in a fire at a school in Niger's capital, Niamey](#) . Statement amplified by HQ ([here](#)), National Committees (US) and international and national media: [reliefweb](#) ; [AllAfrica](#) ; [VOA](#) ; [Niamey et les 2 jours](#) ; [Agence Nationale de Presse](#) ; [Actuniger](#) ; [Niamey Soir](#) ; [A Niamey](#) ; [Journal du Niger](#) ; [Le Sahel](#) ; [Planet School Magazine](#) ; [Niger Niooz](#) ; [e-News Niger](#) ; [Africain Info](#)
- Interview of the UNICEF Representative a.i on BBC Afrique [here](#) (22nd April 2021)
- 26 May 2021 - Press release: [Japan supports UNICEF to accelerate humanitarian response in conflict-affected regions of Niger](#). ([Reliefweb](#); [ActuNiger](#); [Niamey Soir](#); [Africa News Room](#); [NNN](#); [Nomad Africa Mag](#); [Ghana News Watch](#); [Social News](#); [Afrique Media TV](#))

Human interest story and multimedia

- Displacement in Tillabery: [We had no choice. Either we flee or we die](#)
- Video (Displacement in Tillabery) : [Les villages de Anzourou vidés de leurs populations](#)
- Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) (Video) : [La Coopération Italienne soutient le Mécanisme de Réponse Rapide au Niger](#)

COVID-19 and COVAX Vaccine in Niger

- **#Vaccinated: Leading By Example:** [In Niger, Govt, UN, traditional and community leaders lead by example by getting the Covid-19 vaccine](#) ; [Le Ministre de la Santé et les partenaires du Niger se sont faits vacciner contre la Covid 19](#)
- [Q&A with the Minister of Health on Covid-19 Vaccine safety](#) disseminated through social media
- **Building Confidence in COVID-19 Vaccines in Niger:** [With UNICEF support, the Scouts run a vaccination awareness campaign to motivate the community to get vaccinated](#)
- [Press release](#) announcing the arrival of the COVAX Vaccine : [Niamey et les 2 jours](#) ; [Actuniger](#) ; [Le Sahel](#) ; [Niamey Info](#) ; [Niger Search](#) ; [Le Grand Niger](#) ; [First Niger](#) ; [People Daily](#) ; [Studio Kalangou](#) ; [Sika Finance](#) ; [Reliefweb](#)
- Production of a short [video](#) featuring the UNICEF Representative a.i. for digital and global outreach amplified through global and regional platforms: [UNICEF Africa](#) ; [UNICEF Niger](#) ; [UNICEF \(FR\)](#)
- Production of a short [video](#) recognizing the support provided by the COVAX Facility partners and donors published on UNICEF Niger social media platforms
- Production of a series of multimedia materials that aims to raise awareness of the importance of vaccination: [In Niger, traditional leaders drive campaign against vaccine hesitancy](#) ; [Leading by Example by getting vaccinated](#) ; [Health Minister Messages in local language](#)
- UNICEF Representative interview with [Deutsche Welle](#) on the impact of the Covid-19 on child marriage in Niger (22nd April 2021) and an [exclusive interview](#) for dissemination on digital platforms.
- Publication and dissemination of the third edition of the UNICEF Niger [COVID-19 Diaries](#) entitled : [A Year of Pandemic, A Year of Action in Niger](#) (29 April 2021)

Next SitRep: October 2021

UNICEF Niger website: www.unicef.org/niger

UNICEF Niger Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/unicefniger/>

UNICEF Niger Twitter: [www.twitter.com/Unicefniger](https://twitter.com/Unicefniger)

UNICEF Niger Blog: <http://unicefniger.tumblr.com/>

UNICEF Niger Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/unicefniger/>

UNICEF Niger Humanitarian Action for Children appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/index.html>

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall needs	UNICEF and IPs Response			Cluster/Sector Response		
		2021 target ⁴	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2021 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼
Nutrition							
# of children under-five with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment in a health facility	457,200	457,200	149,358	64,588▲	457,200	149,358	64,588▲
Health							
# of children (6 months-14 years) in humanitarian situations vaccinated against measles	n.a	120,000	205,363	170,116▲			
# of people affected by conflict and disease outbreaks having received access to primary health care	n.a	85,000	43,494	13,456▲			
# of healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases	n.a	500	30	17▲			
# of coordination meetings held with the support of UNICEF (technical and / or financial)	n.a	36	65	56 ▲			
# of health centres equipped as triage centres	n.a	45	25	13 ▲			
WASH							
# people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	1,125,880	378,097	195,319	7,548▲	540,139	245,596	14,999▲
# people affected by an outbreak of water-borne disease accessing hygiene kits and sensitization activities	1,125,880	788,116	470,278	11,235▲	1,125,880	543,675	36,117▲
# of malnourished children admitted for SAM/MAM and benefiting WASH minimum package in the community	1,125,880	88,283	6,354	2,643▲	176,565	7,998	2,849▲
# people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines	n.a	296,671	18,153	-	423,815	51,647	11,485▲
# of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	n.a	50,000	68,829	6,998▲	213,196	68,829	6,998▲
# of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	n.a	750	-	-	850	-	-
# of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)	n.a	500	166	166▲	620	166	166▲
Child Protection							

⁴ Following HRP revisions, some targets have been revised

# of children and caregivers reached with psychosocial support, including access to child-friendly spaces	678,107	152,503	11,396	7,219▲	212,823	22,140	9,949▲
# of registered unaccompanied and separated children benefiting from family tracing and reunification services and family-based care or alternative care arrangements (includes CAAFAG)		1,140	1,292	689▲	4256	1,315	698▲
#women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions		3,600	5	5▲	7200	42	5▲
# children affected by the crisis benefiting from sensitization		283,569	32,539	16,828▲	453,828	60,369	22,543▲
# children and adults that have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse		300	-	-	300	-	-
Education							
# children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	255,000	125,000	68,242	-	230,000	94288	407▲
# children receiving individual learning materials	255,000	125,000	28,420	11▲	230,000	52,917	11▲
# schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	17,000	5,000	170	-	10,000	225	-
Social Protection and Cash Transfers							
# households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors	n.a	5,000	1,858	950▲			
# households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding	n.a	75,779	-	-			
C4D, community engagement and AAP							
# people reached through messaging on access to services (including COVID-19 related messages)	12,000,000	12,000,000	3,351,766	1,864,443▲			
# people participating in engagement actions (for social and behavioural change)	3,000,000	3,000,000	680,533	428,571▲			
# of people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through establishes feedback mechanisms	1,300,000	1,300,000	23,626	17,094▲			
Non-Food Items							
# of displaced persons and people affected by natural disasters provided with NFI kits	863,000	171,500	55,467	27,239▲			

Annex B

Funding Status

Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 2021)								
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available				2020 carry forward	Funding gap	
		Humanitarian Resources received in 2021**	Other resources used in 2021	Humanitarian resources available from 2020 (Carry-Over)	Other Resources available from 2020- (Carry-Over)		\$	%
Nutrition	31 364 724	5 488 744	-	4 919 908	-	4 919 908	20 956 072	67%
Health	2 545 000	230 612	-	1 422 584	248 000	1 670 584	643 805	25%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	14 783 338	1 334 872	-	661 924	-	661 924	12 786 541	86%
Child protection	10 733 010	169 679	-	198 198	162 439	360 637	10 202 694	95%
Education	12 240 170	58 589	-	299 153	5 592 899	5 892 052	6 289 529	51%
Social protection and cash transfers*	18 046 061	461 758	-	-	9 976 061	9 976 061	7 608 242	42%
C4D, community engagement and AAP	3 100 000	-	-	204 532	335 468	540 000	2 560 000	83%
Non-food items / shelter	7 821 489	3 168 370	-	293 756	-	293 756	4 359 363	56%
Cluster/sector coordination	1 601 925	223 614	-	467 960	-	467 960	910 351	57%
Total	102 235 717	11 136 237	-	8 468 014	16 314 867	24 782 881	66 316 598	64,87%

*The funding requirements for social protection and cash transfers include US\$17,046,061 for social protection requirements as well as US\$1,000,000 for cash humanitarian assistance.

** Firm pledges contribution for COVID -19 response have been received from United States Bureau of Population and Migration (US - BPRM) . These will be reflected in the next SitRep once allocated to respective sectors.