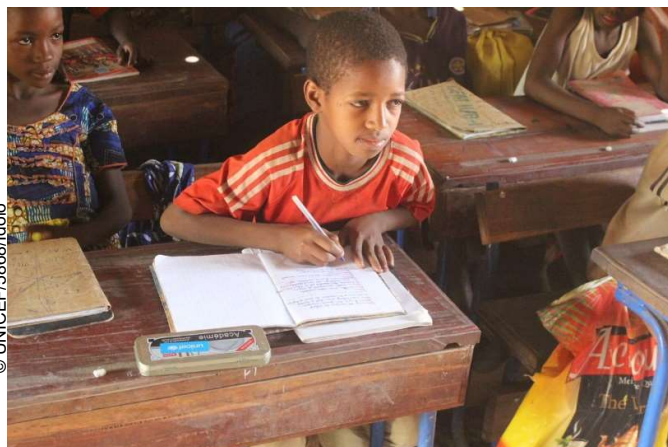
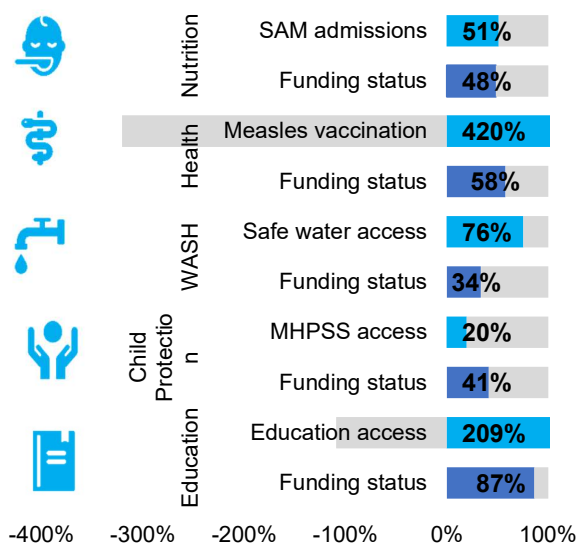




Reporting Period: August 2021

- The humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate in Mali, with significant insecurity affecting the civilian population and resulting in the displacement of 386,454 people (of which 64 per cent are children).
- UNICEF's humanitarian appeal for Mali (USD 119,08 million) is 48 per cent funded leaving a significant gap of USD 61.5 million or (52% of the appeal), particularly in the WASH (66%), Social Inclusion (60%), Child Protection (59%) and Nutrition (52%) sectors.
- 14,889 positive cases of COVID-19 reported in Mali by end of August 2021, including 539 deaths since the pandemic hit Mali in March 2020. The case fatality rate is 3.62% and the cure rate is 94.87%.
- UNICEF's response from January to August 2021 in crises affected regions: 82,518 Children treated for severe acute malnutrition; Short term emergency distribution of household water treatment, hygiene kits and sustainable water supply services were provided to 411,757 people; 6,651 vulnerable children (3,210 girls/ 3,441 boys) affected by the armed conflict benefited from mental health and psychosocial support activities; 5,711 school children (2,919 girls), received individual schools' kits.

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



Mali Humanitarian Situation Report N°8

unicef

for every child

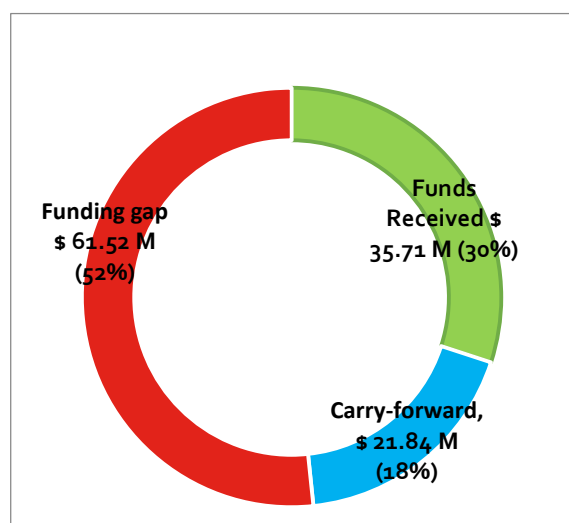
Situation in Numbers

3,200,000
children in need of humanitarian assistance
(OCHA Mali February 2021)

5,900,000
people in need of humanitarian assistance
(OCHA Mali HNO February 2021)

386,454
Internally displaced people
(National Directorate of Social Development - DNDS.
Matrix for Monitoring Displacement (DTM), 31 May 2021)

UNICEF Appeal 2021 US\$ 119.1 million



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

Funding Overview and Partnerships

By the end of August 2021, USD 57.56 million representing 48.34 % of the appeal (USD 119,08 million) were mobilized, leaving a significant gap of USD 61.5 million¹ or (52% of the appeal), particularly in the WASH (66%), Social Inclusion (60%), Child Protection (59%) and Nutrition (52%) sectors. Overall, the Governments of the USA (USAID- OFDA), Germany, Austria, Canada, Japan, Denmark; Romania, Czech Republic, British Government (DFID), Switzerland, USA (State), the European Commission / ECHO; SIDA-Sweden, UNICEF-China, German Committee for UNICEF, UNOCHA UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Action, European Commission / ECHO; UNOCHA, GAVI The Vaccine Alliance, USAID/Food for Peace, Global Partnership for Education, Education Cannot Wait Fund, Spanish Committee for UNICEF, Canadian UNICEF Committee, Spain, USAID/Food for Peace, have generously contributed to UNICEF Mali humanitarian response. UNICEF expresses its deep and sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

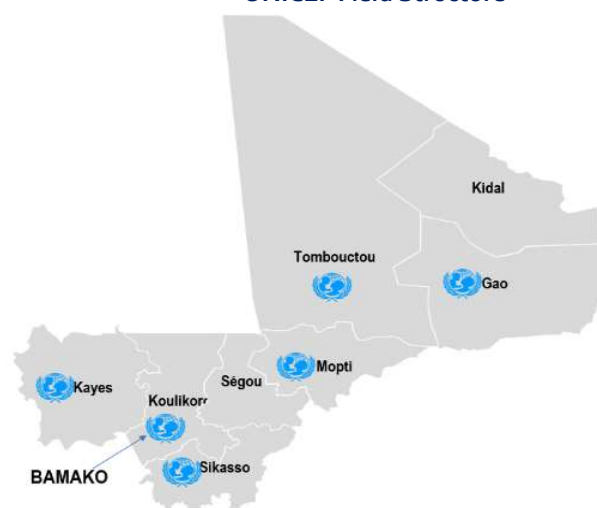
The conflict and the COVID-19 pandemic continued to negatively affect the rights and well-being of children and increase their vulnerability and protection risks.

The country has recorded 14,889 positive cases of COVID-19 as of August 31, 2021, including 539 deaths since the pandemic hit Mali in March 2020². The case fatality rate is 3.62% and the cure rate is 94.87%. Regarding the COVID-19 vaccination, 303,154 people have been vaccinated as of August 31, including 259,719 people with the AstraZeneca vaccine (two doses) and 43,435 of the Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccine, -approximately 2% of the national target-.

The situation in Mali continues to be characterized by significant violations of people's rights. The blockade of villages by armed groups, particularly in the center of the country, is increasing depriving populations of regular access to their livelihoods and making them even more fragile as these attacks are often accompanied by looting, theft of livestock, destruction or arson of huts and granaries. Inter-communal clashes have intensified in the centre, despite several local peace agreements concluded earlier this year with some of them being violated.

A major concern of the humanitarian community is the increasing constraints on humanitarian access, especially in areas where there is already a shortage and sometimes a complete absence of basic social services and infrastructure. In addition to logistical access constraints (linked to landlocked areas and the winter rainy season making roads/access routes impassable), access is particularly limited in areas affected by hostilities between armed groups or military operations, as well as widespread insecurity linked to the risk of robberies and criminality which has increased drastically in the centre and north in recent months. The spread of the conflict to the south of the country remains a concern. Numerous security incidents have taken place in recent months in the Sikasso region, leading to a deterioration in the protection situation. 115 schools-34 500 students affected- schools are reported to be nonfunctional in this region in relation to the insecurity.

UNICEF Field Structure



¹ This figure supersedes the 51.8% gap mistakenly communicated in the July SitRep

² Daily report n°547 Covid-19 of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs of August 31, 2021,

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

The management and coordination of nutrition interventions (preventive and curative) are on-going with the support of UNICEF and partners (Regional Health Directorates, health districts and NGOs such as IMC, COOPI and ACTED).

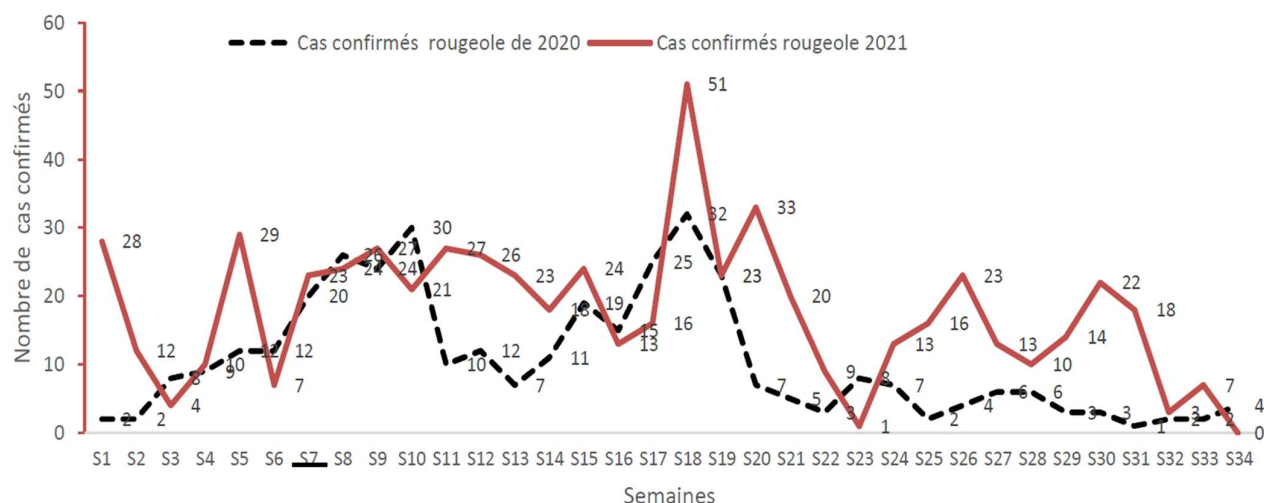
The treatment of malnutrition and the promotion of infant and young child feeding practices (IYCF) are led both at health center and community levels. 8,586 new cases of severe acute malnutrition in children aged 6 to 59 months (4,609 girls and 3,977 boys) were treated in August, bringing the total number of children treated for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) to 82,518 out of 161,210 targeted children, 51% of the total number of children targeted in 2021. In terms of prevention, 18,785 caregivers of children aged 0-23 months (4,699 males and 14,086 females) received infant and young child feeding counselling (IYCF).

The nutritional situation assessment survey is being carried out with the training of the interviewers done in August; data collection will follow immediately after the training. Within the framework of the 2021 NRP (Nutrition Response Plan), a joint WFP-UNICEF response planned for the lean season in the regions affected by the crises (Mopti, Timbuktu, Gao, Segou, Menaka) is running from July to October 2021 with preventive and curative components aiming to: i) prevent the deterioration of the nutritional status of children aged 6 to 23 months and pregnant and lactating women living in poor and very poor households during the lean season, ii) improve the level of knowledge for mothers and caregivers on key family practices related to infant and young child feeding, hygiene and prevention of common diseases, iii) initiate mothers and caregivers in the measurement of the brachial perimeter to allow early detection of malnutrition in children aged 6 to 59 months, iv) identify and refer acutely malnourished children (AMM and SAM) to management centers during nutritional supplementation distributions.

In the context of the COVID-19, the main challenges to the implementation of nutrition interventions remains the insecurity in the center and north of the country, limiting access and potentially reducing attendance and utilization of nutrition and health services. Although the influx of corona virus disease has decreased, restrictions on assembly continue, limiting group activities, including home visits as part of IYCF promotion activities.

Health

Measles outbreaks were reported in 9 out of 20 regions in the country with total of 619 cases confirmed and 2 deaths. Since January 2021, 344,275 children aged of 6 months to 59 months were reached by the measles vaccine.



Weekly distribution of confirmed measles cases 2020 and 2021 from W1 to W34.

The circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV2) epidemic constitutes a health issue in the country as well. Since February 2020 to August 31, 2021, the country has recorded 51 cases, including four environmental surveillance cases and 47 Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases, distributed between Menaka, Gao, Mopti, Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Segou and Bamako.

As of August 31, 2021, the country has cumulatively recorded 14,889 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 539 deaths. To face the pandemic, the country has put in place prevention and response actions, including the anti-COVID-19 vaccination campaign. With the support of strategic partners including UNICEF and WHO, Mali developed a response plan against COVID-19 in March 2020, revised in December 2020 and again in July 2021 in order to adapt to the second phase of the vaccination campaign, which was launched in Bamako on 23 August 2021. On August 5, 2021, the country received 151,200 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine offered by the United States Government through the COVAX initiative.



Reception of 151 200 doses of Johnson & Johnson vaccine (27/08/2021)

So far, 173,242 people received a first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine and 86,477 people the second dose while 72,187 people were vaccinated with the Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccine. Nationally, more than 150 public and community radio stations as well as public and private televisions broadcasted public awareness messages on the importance of respecting barrier measures and the vaccination against the COVID-19. UNICEF is supporting the Government to cover the logistical costs to transport the vaccines in the regions as well as the operational costs of the second phase of the campaign in the regions of Bamako, Mopti, Kayes, Menaka and Gao.

The inauguration of the new buildings of the National Immunization Center was made on August 27, 2021, by the Minister of Health, in the presence of representatives of UNICEF and WHO. The new center, funded by UNICEF, will help strengthening the country's vaccine management as well as storage capacities. The infrastructure is made up of three cold rooms, two levels building including 14 office rooms, one canteen, one dry store, one computer room and one meeting room.



Inauguration of the new EPI premises by the Minister of Health (27/08/2021)

WASH

UNICEF and partners interventions are implemented to cover the needs of the populations affected by the various humanitarian shocks as well as the COVID-19 pandemic. In August, UNICEF provided short term emergency distribution of household water treatment and hygiene kits as well as sustainable water supply services to 411,757 people (386,508 for temporary access and 25,249 for sustainable access) in Bamako, Menaka, Mopti, Gao, Timbuktu and Sikasso regions. These results were achieved in partnership with the Regional Directorates of Hydraulic, Regional Directorates of Social Development and Solidarity Economy, Regional Directorates of Civil Protection, UNICEF implementing partners including the NGOs NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council), IRC (International Rescue Committee) IMADEL (Initiative Malienne d'Appui au Développement local), GARDL, Solidarités International (SI).

Education

UNICEF supports the Government and communities to build a resilient education system in the context of insecurity and the COVID-19 pandemic. In August, UNICEF and implementing partners³ enabled 59,702 children (30,145 girls) to access quality formal and non-formal education in a safe and protective learning environment through school kits and benches distributions, construction of Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS), community sensitization and recruitment of volunteer teachers. Among these children, 814 IDPs (452 girls) were supported in Gao region, while 2,039 children (1,039 girls) benefited of catch-up courses for the preparation of the end year exams; 4,022 children (136 girls) benefited from food assistance during exams session in Gao region.

In the context of the COVID-19, UNICEF continued to support schools in the implementation of preventive measures. In August 350 school headmasters and their deputies were trained on the implementation of the COVID-19 protocol and hygiene practices

³ OMAES, IEDA and AMAED for Timbuktu region and IEDA relief, OMAES and SFCG for Mopti region

in school in Gao region. Health protocols integrating the Covid-19 were implemented in 39 schools in the Mopti region benefiting to 7,387 children, (including 3,609 girls).

Child Protection

During the reporting period, 6,651 vulnerable children (3,210 girls/ 3,441 boys) affected by the armed conflict benefited from psychosocial activities in child friendly spaces, recreational and other secure spaces including the transit and orientation centres and individual support in foster families in the regions of Gao, Mopti, Kidal, Ménaka, Ségou, Timbuktu and Bamako district. Totally, 32,187 children were supported with psychosocial activities since January 2021. Compared to the same period of August 2020, 32,605 children were reached.

During the same period, 25 children (24 boys and one girl) released from armed groups were supported in four transit centres in Gao, Bamako, Mopti and Kidal as well as in foster families and communities. Those children benefited from comprehensive temporary care when necessary and individualized follow-up in order to prepare them for a return to their families and communities. This "back home" will be accompanied by a contextualized reintegration project. Since January 2021, 231 children (35 girls/196 boys) were released and cared by UNICEF and its implementing partners. Moreover, 174 unaccompanied or separated children (UASC) (75 girls/99 boys) received holistic interim care in transit centre or foster families, with a total of 1,032 UASC supported since January.

These results express the growing number of children in need of special attention and reflect the context of insecurity in which they live. Through its partnerships with the National and Regional Directorates for the Promotion of Women, Children and Family, as well as with its implementing partners (COOPI, SOLISA, GARDL, ATDED, Peace One Day, ODI SAHEL, Kanuya, Samu Social Mali and EDUCO) UNICEF continues to build a sustainable mechanism for the protection of children affected by the crisis.

UNICEF continues to lead the coordination of the Child Protection Area of Responsibility including the development and dissemination of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) operational framework in child protection, the coordination of the response of the displaced populations in Bamako and regions and the advocacy targeted donors and governments.

Communication for Development

Sensitization activities against the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) which were conducted by three youth organizations (RENAJEM, AEJT and FMCAU) ended in August 2021; they comprised advocacy sessions, door to door sensitization, sensitization in mining sites and IDPS camps, radio and movie broadcasting on Ebola Virus preventive measures. These activities were conducted by 176 youths including 72 women who were trained on communication techniques and animation. They reached 935 community leaders including 161 women through 17 advocacy sessions; 123 985 people among which 97 298 local population were reached through sensitization activities; 26 687 IDPs including 11 810 women in 17 IDP camps and 253 428 people reached through radio broadcastings.

The communication activities on the second round of the Covid-19 vaccination campaign phase, included radio broadcasting of awareness messages, testimonies and round tables in more than 150 radios, advocacy sessions with 160 religious leaders (Muslim and Christians) in mosques and churches -reaching more than 7,200 people-, information sessions in 17 out of 20 IDP camps in the region of Mopti.

In the implementation of the project Dissemination of Islamic and Christian Religious Texts for the Promotion of Barrier Gestures and Vaccination against Covid-19 in Kayes Region, the religious texts were reviewed by 40 Christian and Muslim religious leaders including 10 women. 4,000 copies of the book were printed and will be distributed in 20 mosques and 20 churches.

UNICEF supported peace building and social cohesion activities with the training of 304 beneficiaries on the conflict prevention project (AN BE GNONGO BOLO - Together for peace) in Kayes region. 72 of them including 42 women were trained on resilience, peace and social cohesion.

Social Inclusion

During the reporting period, of the initial 7,563 women from the "Women Saving Groups" targeted for cash transfers, 4,956 have self-reported having received the cash in Bamako, Koulikoro, Segou and Sikasso. The others are under verification. In addition, the first step of complementary services based on Communication for Development have started and is being implemented through the "mama yeleen" strategy.

Following the enrolment of 106,133 households newly registered in the Unified Social registry (RSU) 32,500 households (41% of them headed by women) have been selected for the first wave of cash transfer in 34 most vulnerable communes in Bamako, Koulikoro, Segou and Sikasso. During the reporting period 16,866 households received US\$ 911,000 (\$US55 each household; 1USD=550 XOF) and the cash and the distribution is underway.

Under the resilience project, 24,858 households with children under five out of the targeted 30,000 received cash transfer as part of the Preventive Nutritional Package in Tombouctou and Mopti. In addition to this direct support to the households, 150 Groups of Support to Nutrition sensitive Activities (GSAN) received a package of cash transfer (\$US 545 each group for a total amount of \$US 81,000) to implement Income Generating Activities (IGA). This strategy aims to empower the GSAN so that they can support their own needs and free more time to invest in their community's role and better support outcome for children. These IGA were selected on a competitive process based on the simplified business plan of the GSAN.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

Humanitarian action coordination is led by the Ministry of Health and Social Development with the support of the Humanitarian Country Team. UNICEF is leading three clusters, WASH, Nutrition and Education and the Child Protection Sub-Cluster. UNICEF co-led clusters are all part of the Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) led by OCHA at the national and sub-national levels. UNICEF also participates in the in-country interagency PSEA Task Force and interagency Gender Task Force.

UNICEF Humanitarian strategy is aligned with the 2021 inter-agency humanitarian response plan (HRP) which aims to save lives and protect affected populations. The process of developing the 2022 Humanitarian National Overview HNO is underway with the active participation of UNICEF and instrumental coordination of Unicef regional offices in Sikasso and Kayes where OCHA has no presence. UNICEF continues to address urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations in crisis-affected in north and central regions, while strengthening the linkages between humanitarian action and development programming and prioritizing community-based approaches.

UNICEF in Mali, with partners, contributed to strengthen the national health and nutrition systems, delivering emergency assistance, including the provision of water and sanitation packages, the management of SAM cases, measles and Poliomyelitis vaccination, and providing psychosocial support to conflict-affected children. UNICEF continues to promote the continuity of education through community mobilization, community learning centers and the provision of school supplies. UNICEF also reinforces the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism and supports the release of children from armed forces and groups and provided girl survivors of gender-based violence with community care and socio-economic reintegration.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

On the website

Publication of [a press release following the signing on 26 August of an Action Plan](#) between the United Nations and the Platform, a coalition of movements that signed the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, to end the recruitment and use of children.

Inauguration of the new National Immunisation Centre in the presence of the Minister of Health, Mrs Diéminatou Sangaré which received large media attention with more than 4000 views on Facebook. [ORTM TV report can be seen here.](#)

Next SitRep: 30st September 2021

UNICEF Mali Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/unicefmali/>

UNICEF Mali Twitter: <https://twitter.com/unicefmali>

UNICEF Mali Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/Mali.html>

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Annex A - Summary of Programme Results⁴

			UNICEF and IPs Response			Cluster/Sector Response		
Sector		Total needs	2021 target	Total results	Change* ▲ ▼	2021 target	Total results	Change* ▲ ▼
Indicator	Disaggregation							
Health								
# children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles	girls		81,900	245,484	0			▲
	boys			98,791	0			
# children aged 0 to 59 months vaccinated against polio	girls		81,900	1,776,193	0			▲
	boys			1,939,759	0			
Nutrition								
# children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	girls	4609	161,210 ⁵	44,560	4,609	78,910	44,560	4,609
	boys	3977		37,958	3,977	82,300	37,958	3,977
# primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Women		480,853	58,748	0	540,336	58,748	0
	Men ⁶			19,582	0		19,582	0
Child Protection								
# children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	girls		300,000	15,761	3,210	828,728	20,375	3,657
	Boys				3,441			
					16,426			21,053
# children released from armed forces and groups reintegrated with their families/communities	girls		400	36	1	800	35	1

⁴ UNICEF's Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC 2021) is being updated to reflect HRP 2021 that will be launched in March 2021.

⁵ UNICEF target is the same as the Nutrition cluster target (161,210 for SAM) based on HRP 2021

⁶ The number of Caregivers men was put in Women in April, that was corrected.

or provided with adequate care and services	Boys			220	24		203	31
# unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services	girls		1,000	510	75	1,500	570	76
	boys			696	99		791	104
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response intervention			40,400	108,475	108,475	N/A	N/A	N/A
Education								
# children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	girls		90,000	94,392	30,145	159,000	118,082	30,273
	boys			94,065	29,557		123,551	29,670
# children receiving individual learning materials	girls		200,000	51,802	2,919	485,832	156,638	3,166
	boys			52,363	2,792		164,878	3,030
# schools implementing COVID protocols (infection prevention and control)			2,000	1,899	39	6,500	12,066	58
WASH								
# people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	girls		543,800	114,575	52,008	1,002,661	155,953	54,618
	boys			119,406	54,201		162,528	56,921
	women			90,582	41,117		123,294	43,181
	men			87,194	39,579		118,683	41,566
# people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines	Men		50,000	3,673	2,158	100,000	15,182	2,158
	Women			3,648	2,142		15,076	2,142

# people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services	Women		430,200	192,577	89,451	926,000	324,579	176,245
	Men			193,931	90,081		326,862	177,485
Social Protection								
# households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors			60,000	21,822	21,822			
# households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding			40,000	0	0			
C4D								
# people participating in engagement actions for social and behavioural change	Women		800,000	857,144	255,770			
	Men			725,581	203,848			
# people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms	Women		300,000	36,416	2,331			
	Men			35,395	1,908			

* Change since last report.

Annex B

Funding Status*

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2021	Resources available from 2020 (Carry-over)	\$	%
Nutrition	22,764,211	4,311,750	6,705,258	11,747,203	52%
WASH	21,828,960	6,555,086	804,186	14,469,688	66%
Health	10,829,700	5,888,649	396,300	4,544,751	42%
Child Protection	23,210,000	7,603,820	1,996,806	13,609,374	59%
Education	14,539,649	8,870,839	3,714,748	1,954,062	13%
Social Inclusion	20,807,766	0	8,230,867	12,576,899	60%
C4D	2,948,400	2,285,869	0	662,531	22%
Emergency Coordination	2,156,609	201,078	0	1,955,531	91%
Total	119,085,295	35,717,092	21,848,164	61,520,039	52%