



Reporting Period: 1 - 30 October 2021

Ghana

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 23

unicef 
for every child

Highlights

As of 31st October 2021, Ghana recorded over 130,000 COVID-19 cases, with the number of active cases exceeding 1,700 and 1,175 deaths.

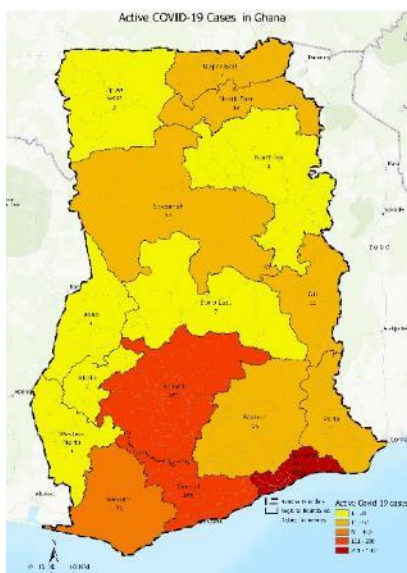
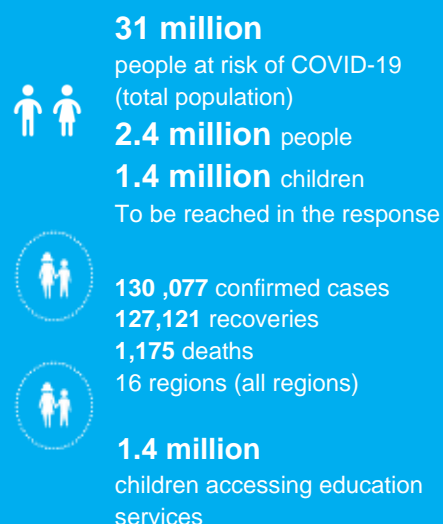
Earlier this month, on the 6th of October, 530,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccines arrived from Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Germany through the COVAX facility.

On the 8th of October, over 1.3 million doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines were received in Ghana. They doses were donated by the US Government through the COVAX facility, marking the first arrival of Pfizer vaccines into the country.

To date, more than 2.9 million vaccines doses have been administered with over 830,000 people fully vaccinated.

In close cooperation with the UN Country Team, UNICEF continues to work with the Government across the sectors to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other critical humanitarian risks, reaching the most vulnerable children and adolescents.

Situation in Numbers



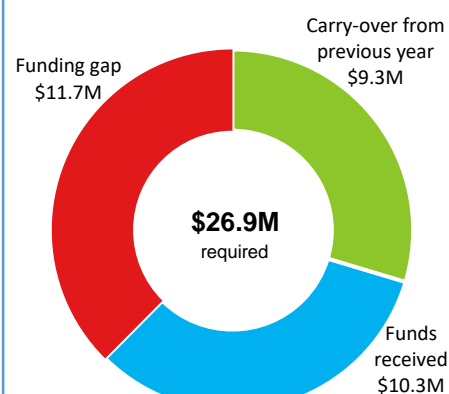
Active COVID-19 cases as at 31 October 2021, Ghana. Source: WHO



Top: The Deputy Minister of Health receives over 1.3 million doses of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines from H.E. the US Ambassador, with support from UNICEF, through COVAX. @UNICEF/ANNAKRA
Bottom: A delegation from the Ministry of Health, Germany, Norway, Iceland & Denmark receives 530,000 doses of AstraZeneca COVID19 vaccines. @UNICEF/KOKOROKO

UNICEF Appeal 2021 US\$ 26.9 million

Funding status*



Note: the funding gap does not take into consideration overachievement at the sector level.

Analysis of Programme Response

Health

Over 1.3 million doses of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines were handed over by the US Government to the Ministry of Health through the COVAX initiative, with UNICEF's logistics support. Four UNICEF teams were deployed to support the Ghana Health Service in the on-going vaccination campaign, to provide technical support to regional, district and sub-district level personnel. UNICEF continues to help strengthen cold chain and health systems, train health staff, mobilize and raise awareness of communities.

To assist in the storage of the COVID-19 vaccines, the Government of Ghana received thirty (30) ultra-cold chain (UCC) storage equipment from the Government of Japan and UNICEF, and an additional six UCC storage facilities from UNICEF's Supply Division. The equipment is distributed for immediate use across the country to assist in vaccination efforts.

The Ministry of Health and the Ghana Health Service receive 30 ultra-cold chain equipment donated by the Government of Japan with support from UNICEF. ©UNICEF/UN255111/ADATSI



The Ghana Health Service, UNICEF, WHO, GAVI and partners are working together to review the database of health facilities providing immunisation services in the country. The selection of health facilities for the 2021 Effective Vaccine Management (EVM) assessment was also completed and submitted to the UNICEF West and Central Africa Regional Office.

Under the Scaling Pneumonia Response Innovation (SPRINT) initiative, over 1,700 children have been assessed by health workers who have received training in integrated management of childhood illnesses. The SPRINT team embarked on a field visit in October to assess progress in programme implementation, to document lessons learned and the impact of the programme so far.

Dr. Maria Montserrat Llorch, UNICEF Paediatrician, attends to a 6-month-old baby at the Emergency ward of the Eastern Regional Hospital, Koforidua, Ghana during a SPRINT mission. ©UNICEF/UN382911/KOKOROKO



Nutrition

UNICEF worked with the Iodine Global Network and Ghana Health Service (GHS) to disseminate findings of the landscape analysis on iodine nutrition and salt in processed foods in Ghana. Multiple stakeholders were engaged to draw focus on issues to be addressed at various levels to advance iodine nutrition in the country. A task force was deployed to revamp the Universal Salt iodization in Ghana. UNICEF has also engaged the Foods and Drugs Authority to strengthen collaboration for improving quality diets. Focus areas include identifying gaps in the food marketing environment regarding the regulation and enforcement of guidelines to inform policy decisions.

UNICEF also supported the implementation of school-age nutrition in 50 selected schools across the five northern regions. This was done through equipping school staff with skills and tools on the implementation of food, health, WASH and nutrition interventions.

As part of the China Aid partnership, the micronutrient supplementation program has commenced in the North East Region with over 2,500 beneficiaries (6-23 months) so far.



Protein day at Doli primary school, Bole, Savannah Region © Braimah Brian Mumuni/2021

Child Protection

UNICEF provided virtual training sessions for 60 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) on 19 new child protection and social protection indicators. These were introduced by the National Development Planning Commission in 2020 as part of the Annual Progress Report requirements for the Departments of Social Welfare and Community Development. Over 98 staff have received training on improving the quality of data reported against these indicators under the Integrated Social Services (ISS) initiative. The Department of Social Welfare has been engaged in on-site coaching and monitoring visits to 40 new ISS MMDAs with 240 officers benefitting from hands-on technical support.

UNICEF supported the end-line assessment and verification of the 2020 performance contracts of all the Regional Coordinating councils and MMDAs, with funding from USAID, UK AID and Global Affairs Canada. The assessment noted improving budget allocations in the areas of child and social protection with DSW CDs experiencing a significant improvement in support received from the Assemblies for the provision of integrated social services to children and vulnerable families.

UNICEF facilitated discussions between the Child protection Digital Forensics Laboratory, Cyber Crime Unit and representatives from the Telecommunications industry to curb online crimes against children. The National Cyber Security Act requires ISPs to retain data linked to specific IP addresses for at least two years. Telecommunications companies have indicated that plans are underway to establish the necessary infrastructure for data retention and staff capacity building



A teacher guides a student during an ICT lesson at Nungua Secondary School.
©UNICEF/UN710100/ANNANKRA

Education

Home-based learning through the 'Community Libraries' project, using the mobile library vans, led by the Ghana Library Authority (GHLA), continues to expand in Eastern and Central regions, with UNICEF support. Cumulatively, 3,500 children (1,657 girls) in and out of school who registered, have received books to improve their reading skills. The Eastern regional team proceeded to assist the library staff to have a story time session with pupils.

As part of the ongoing Safe School programme, UNICEF supported the Ghana Education Service through a stakeholder consultative process, to develop a national behaviour standard for pre-tertiary learners. The standard, which will provide guidance on good behaviours and participation among learners, was finalized and validated by over 50 participants. These include education stakeholders, including the GES management, pre-tertiary students, teachers, teacher unions, PTA/SMC groups, civil society, and faith-based organizations

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



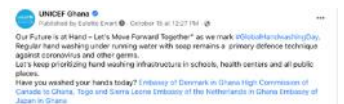
Children using a hand washing facility provided with UNICEF support.
©UNICEF/UN332009/MILLS

An additional 1,700 people are currently living in Open Defecation Free communities, with access to improved hand washing facilities. Over the reporting period, almost 1,000 school children have had access to improved child-friendly toilets and safe water. In October, contractors have been mobilised to complete the installation of hand-pump boreholes. These will provide safe water for over 4,700 school children.

Over 140 teachers were trained on facilities management, water safety planning and hygiene promotion in schools, as part of UNICEF's support to the sector.

Through the contribution of the Government of Denmark, the Ghana Water Company has been connecting 50,000 additional residents in low-income urban communities to safe water.

In addition, hygiene items are being delivered to schools, public places, and health centers. These items have been provided thanks to the support of the Governments of Denmark and Canada.



Communication

As part of efforts to address misinformation and increase confidence in relation to the Ghana's COVID-19 vaccination campaign, UNICEF partnered with the Ghana Health Service in the Ashanti Region to deliver a two-day capacity-strengthening workshop with 40 journalists from across the country. Thirty Health Officers also learned how to develop effective messages to enhance confidence in both the polio and COVID-19 vaccines. UNICEF also continued its coordination of misinformation analysis and response as part of a GHS-led taskforce.

This month, the GHS Health Promotion Division in the Ashanti Region trained 90 districts staff and 215 frontline health staff on how to encourage mothers to access maternal and newborn care services available within their local health facilities, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On the occasion of Global Handwashing Day, UNICEF reached over 500,000 people through its digital platforms with hygiene and COVID-19 related messages.

Adolescents, Gender and Youth Engagement and Empowerment

On October 11th, the UN Gender Team in Ghana, including UNICEF, contributed to joint activities to mark the International Day of the Girl. To promote this year's theme 'Digital Generation. Our Generation', UNICEF collated inspiring stories of girl trailblazers in technology in Ghana, including girls who are participating in the UPSHIFT programme.

In addition, UNICEF supported the Department of Children's National Symposium. On this occasion, the UN Resident Coordinator, Charles Abani, spoke on the digital divide and made a call for action to increase girls' access to technology and stimulate their interest in an industry still dominated by boys and men.



UN resident Coordinator, Charles Abani speaks at the National Symposium to mark the Day of the Girl.
©UNICEF/UN177611/ADATSI

Working with Savana Signatures, UNICEF hosted an online event attended by young people with four guest speakers including Ida Padikuor Na-Tei, from Generation Unlimited. Various topics were discussed including online safety, careers in technology, and the digital divide and its impact on gender equality and the empowerment of girls.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy



UNICEF's humanitarian strategy in Ghana involves protecting children and their families from exposure to COVID-19, minimizing mortality and supporting the continuity of services while ensuring preparedness for potential humanitarian crisis. The response is aligned with key global, regional and national frameworks and has identified gaps and targets amongst the most vulnerable groups, especially in high-risk areas. This is key to address the needs of 2.4 million people living in extreme poverty who are most affected by the pandemic.

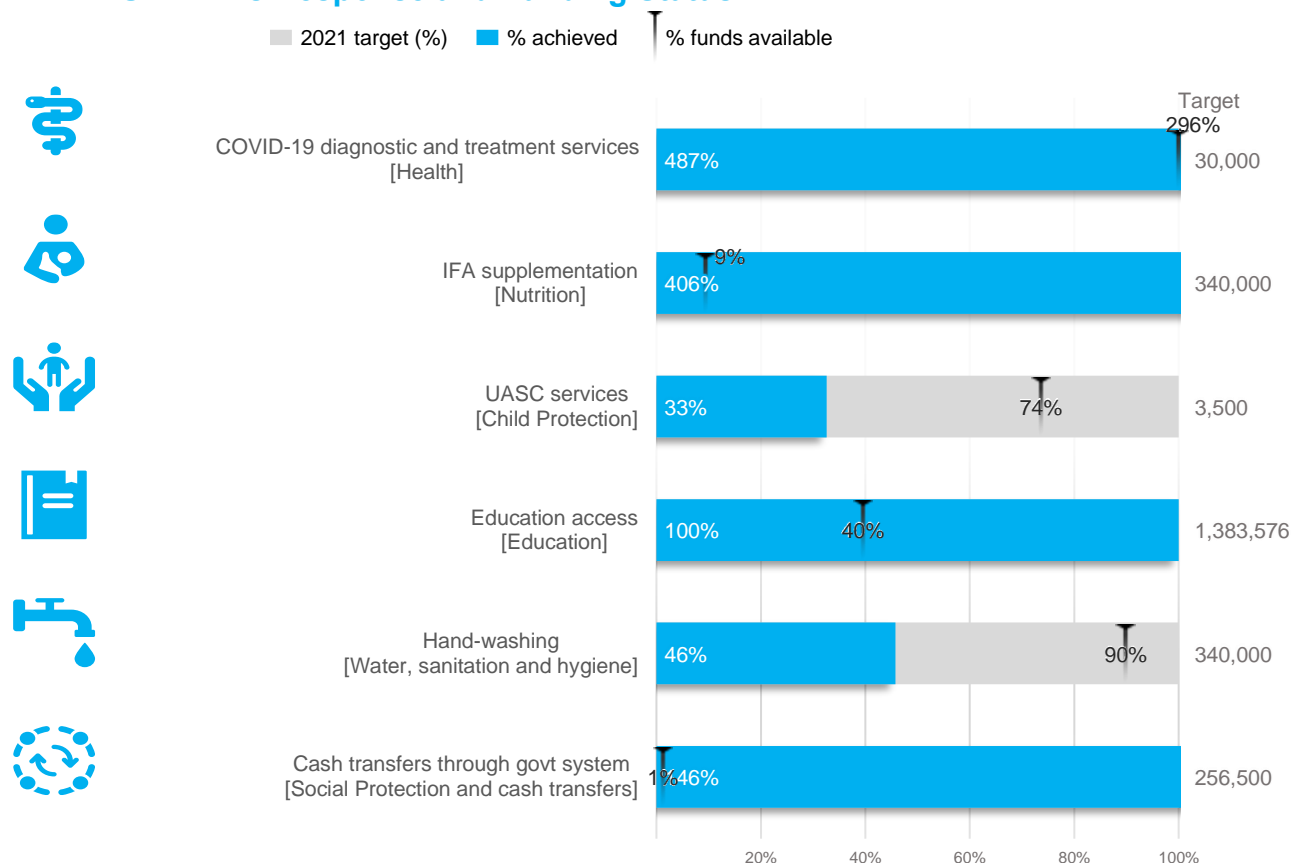
UNICEF is coordinating through existing emergency preparedness and response mechanism. The team is providing additional support to severely stretched capacities at national and sub-national levels in water and sanitation, nutrition, health, education, child protection and social protection sectors. UNICEF also leads the Inter-Agency Working Group on Emergencies.

UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal in Ghana presents a funding gap of US\$ 10,6 million. UNICEF continues to coordinate closely with the Government and the UN Country Team to respond to the COVID-19 crisis in priority areas. These include health, vaccination campaign rollout, risk communication and community engagement,

mitigation of the socioeconomic impact of the crisis and ensuring continuity and access to critical services – nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, child, and social protection.

UNICEF has been able to support the national response thanks to the strategic support of development partners and private donors, including Canada, China International Development and Cooperation Agency, Denmark, United Kingdom, USAID, Japan, GAVI, Mastercard Foundation and Binance Charity. UNICEF calls for more stakeholders to provide additional support to implement vaccination campaigns and ensure the availability quality and inclusive social services. Scaling up remote learning solutions, hygiene infrastructure and maintaining child and social protection commitments will help fill the gaps and ensure a comprehensive and effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, for vulnerable children, young people, and families in Ghana.

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



Human Interest Stories and External Media

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/ghana-to-receive-13m-covid-19-vaccines-from-us/2373504>
<https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/covid-19-us-donates-1-2million-moderna-vaccines-to-ghana.html>
<https://www.myjoyonline.com/covid-19-ghana-receives-1-2million-doses-of-moderna-vaccine/>
<https://www.ghanabusinessnews.com/2021/09/05/ghana-receives-1-2-million-doses-of-moderna-vaccines-from-us/>
<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/ghana-receives-15m-doses-of-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-from-germany/2375540>
<https://www.myjoyonline.com/covid-19-norway-donates-98400-doses-of-astrazeneca-vaccines-to-ghana/>
<https://www.msn.com/en-xl/africa/ghana/ghana-takes-delivery-of-98400-doses-of-astrazeneca-covid-vaccines-from-norway/ar-AAOyLRu>
<http://apanews.net/en/news/press-zooms-in-on-15m-doses-of-astrazeneca-vaccines-donated-by-germany-others/>
<https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/1st-batch-of-germany-s-vaccines-arrive.html>

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Annex A - Summary of Programme Results – Ghana

Sector	Total Needs	UNICEF and IPs Response		
		2021 target	Total results*	Change
Nutrition				
Children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	16,424	16,424	6,389	17%
Primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	350,000	350,000	275,100	15%
Adolescent girls receiving iron and folic acid or multiple micronutrient supplements	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,458,870	14%
Health				
Children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF -supported facilities	500,000	500,000	3,900,866	15%
People who received diagnostic and treatment services for COVID-19	30,000	30,000	754,286	12%
WASH				
People accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	30,000	30,000	6,500	0
Children accessing appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	40,000	40,000	29,032	3%
People reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services	50,000	50,000	7,200	0%
People reached with key hygiene messages, services and/or supplies, including handwashing with soap	340,000	340,000	176,708	11%
Child Protection				
Children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	120,000	120,000	29,989 (Girls) 25,339 (Boys) 29,758 (Women) 19,527 (Men) 104,613 (Total)	3%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions	120,000	120,000	3647 (Girls) 2781 (Boys) 4344 (Women) 10,772 (Total)	0%
People with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse	3,500	3,500	279	0%
Unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services	3,500	3,500	570 (Boys) 588 (Girls) 1158 (Total)	0%

Education				
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	1,383,576	1,383,576	677,952 (girls) 705,624 (boys) 1,383,576 (Total)	0%
Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	10,545	10,545	10,545	0%
Social Protection				
Households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding	256,500	256,500	375,000	0%
Communication for Development / Communication / AAP				
People participating in engagement actions for social and behavioural change	1,000,000	1,000,000	660,275	0%
People reached through messaging on key health behaviours, available social services and response to COVID-19	6,000,000	6,000,000	9,033,232	0%
People who shared their concerns and asked questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms	200,000	200,000	194,087	0%

* Change since the last report.

Annex B - Funding Status - Ghana

Section	Requirements	Humanitarian funds received	Carry-over funds from previous year	Total Funds available	Funding gap	% \$ Gap
Health	1,900,000.00	4,552,850.65	1,072,714.36	5,625,565.01	-	0%
Nutrition	2,372,597.00	225,135.99	-	225,135.99	2,147,461.01	91%
Child Protection	1,175,000.00	427,825.57	437,853.94	865,679.51	309,320.49	26%
Education	5,780,805.00		2,288,141.31	2,288,141.31	3,492,663.69	60%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	8,140,000.00	3,687,893.77	3,628,531.16	7,316,424.93	823,575.07	10%
Social Protection and cash transfers	5,030,000.00		63,668.49	63,668.49	4,966,331.51	99%
Communication for Development	2,550,000.00	1,356,656.37	1,772,884.09	3,129,540.46	-	0%
Grand Total	26,948,402	10,250,362	9,263,793	19,514,156	11,739,352	44%