



Guinea Country Office

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 2



Reporting Period: 1 January to 31 December 2021

Highlights

Since the first case of COVID-19 was reported on March 12, 2020, Guinea has recorded 32,448 positive cases, including 29,842 recoveries and 391 hospital deaths, as of 31 December 2021. 3,238,457 doses (1st and 2nd dose) of vaccine were administered against COVID-19 from March 5 to December 31, 2021.

On February 14, 2021, Guinea announced an outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). 16 EVD cases were confirmed, with 11 cured, 5 deaths, and 10,873 people vaccinated. The end of the epidemic was declared on June 19, 2021.

On August 3, 2021, a death from the Marburg virus disease was recorded in Guinea (the first case in West Africa). As consequence, 173 contact cases were followed up. No other cases were recorded and on September 16, 2021, the end of the outbreak was declared.

A Lassa fever epidemic was declared on May 17, 2021, with 4 cases reported, including 3 deaths.

The country has faced an outbreak of polio virus type 2 (cVDPV2) in 8 districts and a measles outbreak in 5 districts. During the National Immunization Days of October 2021, 2,972,004 children 0-59 months were immunized with the bOPV vaccine (100% of coverage rate) and 344,447 children 9-59 months against measles (99% of coverage rate).

23,478 children aged 6 - 59 months were admitted to health services and treated for severe acute malnutrition, including 11,642 boys and 11,836 girls.

The fight against the spread of COVID-19 in schools benefited 2,849,827 students, while protective measures against EVD benefited 81,304 students.

Situation in Numbers

6,6 M
children in need of humanitarian assistance

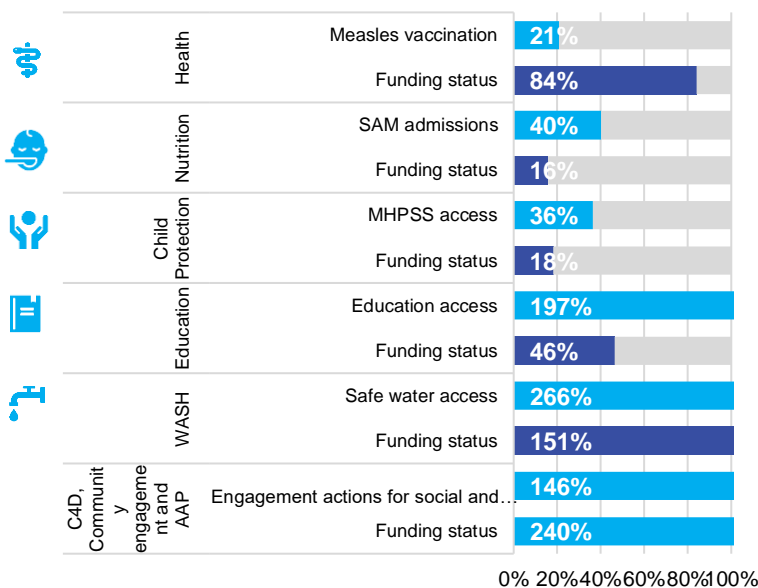
7,7 M
people in need

32,448 COVID-19 Cases

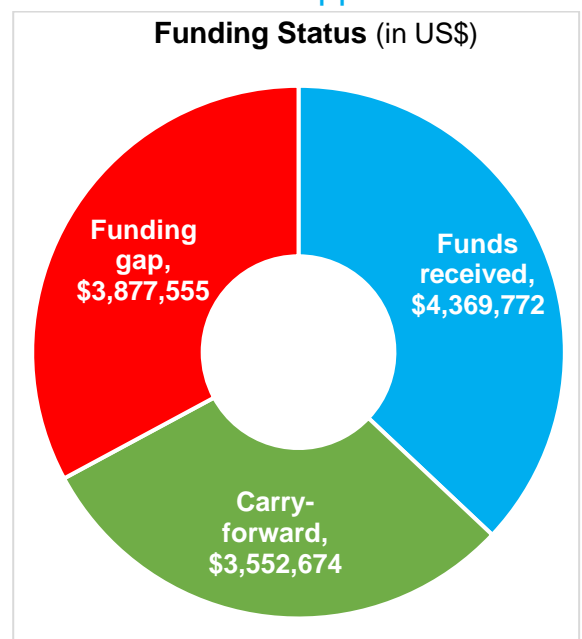
391 COVID-19 Deaths

**Guinea Appeal 2021
HAC
US\$11.8 million**

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Guinea Appeal 2021



*Funding available includes funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

Against the US\$11.8 million requested for the humanitarian appeal for 2021, UNICEF Guinea raised US\$7,922,446 to respond to the needs of children, leading to a GAP of \$3,877,555 (or 33%).

The concurrent management of several epidemics (COVID-19, Ebola, yellow fever, Lassa fever, measles, poliomyelitis), in an already difficult context of resource mobilization, made fundraising efforts even more challenging. The need to mobilize additional financial resources remained critical to UNICEF's ability to continue to save lives and alleviate the suffering of children, adolescents and women in Guinea, in line with its traditional areas of responsibility, but also to support the Government's efforts to control the current COVID-19 crisis.

UNICEF Guinea gratefully acknowledge the generous contributions from key partners including Japan, The Kingdom of Netherlands, World Bank, CERF, USAID, Gavi and the Global Partnership for Education. In addition, UNICEF recognizes the importance of the flexible and unearmarked funds received through the Global Humanitarian Thematic Fund.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The situation in Guinea remains fragile for millions of children due to high poverty rates and the persistence of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, Guinea continued to face recurrent threat of epidemics, high rates of acute malnutrition, cyclical natural disasters (floods), and socio-political unrest that made the overall social environment very tense.

Guinea's emergency situation was aggravated by the dysfunction of government's institutions, the instrumentalization of justice, financial mismanagement, poverty and endemic corruption. The National Rally for Development Committee (*Comité National du Rassemblement pour le Développement - CNRD*) carried out a coup d'état on September 5, 2021. This change in leadership, although sanctioned by sub-regional and international institutions, was welcomed by a very large segment of the population. However, controversies persist around the duration of the transition period among the different socio-political actors, with risks of further unrest.

The resurgence of the Ebola virus disease in February 2021 contributed to the deterioration of the already inadequate existing health facilities, limited treatment capacity and low vaccination coverage. By the end of the epidemic on 19 June 2021, there were 16 cases of confirmed Ebola cases, with 11 people cured, 5 deaths, and 10,873 people vaccinated. A post-Ebola community-based surveillance Programme was established, with the purpose of preventing the spread of the virus, in the event that new cases were detected. The enhanced knowledge and experience gained by implementing partners and communities during the various epidemics the country has faced over the past decade, as well as the accumulated health infrastructure and systems, improved the response and the ability to contain the EVD outbreak.

From March 12, 2020, when the first case of COVID-19 was reported, to December 31, 2021, Guinea recorded 32,448 positive cases, including 29,842 recoveries and 391 hospital deaths.

Thanks to the COVAX programme, Guinea has been able to acquire nearly 6,900,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines to date. On December 20, 2021, Guinea's President launched a national accelerated vaccination campaign against COVID-19. 3,238,457 doses (1st and 2nd dose) were administered against COVID-19 from March 5 to December 31, 2021.

COVID-19 full vaccination rate currently stands at 14% in the general population. Intensification of vaccination is planned for the coming months and will be pursued throughout 2022. According to the National Health Security Agency (ANSS), the country's target by the end of 2022 is to vaccinate at least 80% of the population in Conakry, the epicenter of the pandemic. Constraints in the deployment of vaccination include a low absorption rate of vaccines and the problem of financing operational costs.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the resurgence of EVD have exacerbated existing humanitarian needs in Guinea. These viruses have spread to the most vulnerable parts of the country, including those prone to natural disasters and other epidemics.

These challenges, along with the decrease in the use of health services due to fears of contracting COVID-19, have fueled a number of measles and polio outbreaks. In total, nearly 1.7 million and 1.2 million children under the age of 5 were targeted to be vaccinated against measles and polio, respectively.

The country also faced a Lassa fever epidemic, declared on May 17, 2021, and a Marburg Fever epidemic, on August 3, 2021, both in the forest region of Nzerekore, the epicenter the Ebola epidemic. A total of 4 cases of Lassa fever were reported, including 3 deaths, a case fatality rate of 75%. One case of Marburg fever reported and resulted in death.

Efforts to control COVID-19 transmission were jeopardized by the lack of adequate WASH services in health facilities, schools and communities, and the fact that development partners were focusing primarily on Conakry, the pandemic

epicenter. At the beginning of the year, 20% of households, 69% of health facilities and 64% of schools lacked access to safe water.

Given the uncertain evolution path of the COVID-19 pandemic and the lack of implementation of prevention measures in addition to low vaccination uptake, it seems crucial to further strengthen risk communication, community engagement and adherence to the vaccination programme given the new variants of the virus.

The nutritional status of children aged 6 to 59 months continued to be jeopardized by the COVID-19 pandemic and related food insecurity. For 2021, UNICEF estimates suggest that the cumulative impact of COVID-19 and food insecurity increased the number of children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) from 210,000 to 248,000 nationwide.

UNICEF's support to schools reopening in 2020 allowed 2.9 million students to continue their education in a safe learning environment. UNICEF also supported the implementation and enforcement of measures against the spread of Ebola for 81,304 students. Such efforts were critical in reducing inequalities that could have disproportionately affected girls, and exacerbated gender inequalities, with an increased likelihood of early and/or forced marriage, child labour, sexual exploitation and abuse, and teenage pregnancy, particularly for those living in poverty.

Gender-based violence is a major epidemic in Guinea : 55% per cent of women are victims of physical violence and 29% per cent are victims of sexual violence. Violence against women and children increased by 20% due to the pandemic, according to a government sponsored national study.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health



From January to December 2021, the country faced an outbreak of Circulating Vaccine Derived Polio Virus type 2 (cVDPV2) with the notification of 6 cases, versus 43 cases in 2020. Two campaigns were carried out, with 1,384,320 children vaccinated with the Monovalent Oral Polio Vaccine type 2 (mOPV2) in 20 targeted districts out of 38 districts. 2,972,004 children were immunized during the national immunization days with the Bivalent Oral Poliovirus vaccine (bOPV), a 100% coverage rate. 8,226 vaccinators, supervisors and social mobilizers were trained on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and provided with Personal Protection Equipment.

5 districts crossed the measles epidemic threshold, and a targeted campaign was organized which allowed to immunize 344,477 children aged 9 to 59 months. UNICEF also provided 5 treatment kits to support health facilities in the management of 1,000 cases. The national catch-up campaign planned in 2021 was been postponed to the first quarter of 2022.

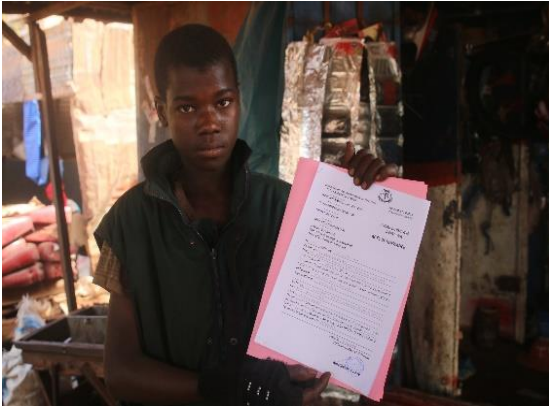
As part as the response to the outbreaks in the Nzerekore region, 22 health facilities received Personal Protection Equipment for IPC and to ensure the continuity of health services. Furthermore, 445 community relays were trained on IPC, community-based surveillance and communication for behaviour change, allowing them to reach 165,000 people during the home visits.

Nutrition

UNICEF supported the management of SAM in health centres. By the end of December 2021, 23,478 children aged 6-59 months with SAM (including 11,836 girls and 1,770 with medical complications) were treated in the 416 health facilities. This represents 40% of the 58,489 targeted SAM children in the HAC 2021. UNICEF provided technical and financial support to train 600 health workers and to provide nutrition inputs (RUTF, F100 and F75) for free treatment of children suffering from acute malnutrition. Activities to promote infant and young child feeding were carried out in health facilities and at the community level by community relays and 800 women's groups, with the support of UNICEF. In this context, 152,629 caregivers (including 100,185 women), and 26,230 children aged 6-23 months, including 13,224 girls, were provided with multi-micro-nutrient powders to prevent micronutrient deficiencies, through home visits and mass awareness sessions.



Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA



During the reporting period, UNICEF supported the identification, recruitment and training of 18 social workers to facilitate psychosocial support for families affected by the EVD in the region of Nzerekore. 7,286 children (including 3,180 girls) received psychosocial support (36% of the target population).

In addition to these activities, 55,568 people, including 16,000 girls (1% of the target population) had access to a safe channel for reporting sexual exploitation and abuse during COVID-19 and Ebola period.

Finally, to support risk mitigation, prevention, and response activities to fight gender-based violence, UNICEF and its partners reached 125,009 people, (including 33,750 women, 18,750 men and 72,509 children)

through community dialogues, as well as sensitization on social networks and the media.

Education



The implementation of appropriate measures in schools to combat the spread of COVID-19 and Ebola contributed to the massive return to school of 2.9 million students and the continuation of learning.

UNICEF supported the back-to-school campaign, insisting on the respect of prevention measures and the optimal use of the hygiene kits provided to 14,499 schools to fight COVID-19. To ease the burden on parents in areas where COVID-19 persists, 87,589 students were provided with educational materials.

Regarding the fight against Ebola in the Nzerekore region, UNICEF prioritized the disinfection of 150 schools and the provision of hygiene kits to all 254 schools in the affected areas. In addition, 1,481 teachers (including 563 women, i.e. 58% of teachers in the affected communes), 207 school principals, 47 headmasters and 600 members of Parents and Friends of School Associations, were trained on the Ebola prevention protocol and on how to support children during the Ebola outbreak. These trainings benefited 81,304 students in Nzerekore.

As part of the fight against COVID-19, school infrastructures were rehabilitated, namely: 85 classrooms, including latrines, 57 positive boreholes and 45 water points.

To create resilient school communities, all key stakeholders were sensitized on how to sustain the gains.

WASH



As part of UNICEF's Ebola response, IPC and WASH interventions were enhanced in 40 health care facilities in Nzerekore and Labe regions, hence benefitting over 80,000 people. The main achievements included: construction/rehabilitation of 40 latrines units, 9 incinerators in 9 health facilities, and 18 water points. Around 700 handwashing kits and disinfectants were availed to health facilities.

With respect to water supply in the communities, 217,878 people in the region of Nzerekore benefitted from improved water services through support to national water corporation to supply water to 194,178 people in the city of Nzerekore and through the construction/rehabilitation of 79 water points (for 23,700 people) in affected rural areas.

As for WASH in schools, 56,800 children from 86 schools in Nzerekore region benefitted from improved hygiene, sanitation or water supply, through the construction/rehabilitation of separated (boys/girls) of 56 latrine units, and 30 water facilities, and the distribution of 710 hygiene kits.

Furthermore, as part of the responses to polio and measles in the region of Kankan, 119 communities were Certified open defecation free and had access to improved sanitation via community-led total sanitation approaches. As for IPC interventions in that region, over 42 health facilities were covered, and 153 health staff trained.

As co-lead of IPC/WASH pillar, UNICEF played a key role in the coordination of actors, especially in the region of Nzerekore, through daily/weekly meetings to ensure complementarity among key stakeholders.

Communication for Development (C4D), Accountability to Affected Population, Localization



In 2021, UNICEF focused its humanitarian actions on supporting the response to multiple epidemics, namely: COVID-19, EVD, Lassa fever, Marburg, measles, and polio. With the National Health Security Agency (ANSS), UNICEF co-led and coordinated Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) interventions to address these epidemics.

Communication activities improved the knowledge of more than 8,083,482 people on prevention measures and the importance of immunization as the most effective means to fight COVID-19. 776,330 people (including 411,881 women) improved their skills to fight EVD and 4,350 community alerts were raised. These alerts were used not only to conduct investigations to identify EVD cases, but also to develop strategies to

manage rumors and misinformation. To increase awareness about the outbreaks, a total of 925,093 people shared their concerns during mass meetings and community dialogues and received clarifications to improve their knowledge and on the services available.

During the national polio immunization campaign, 2,969,641 (including 1,712,659 women) received appropriate polio messages on the benefits of polio vaccination.

In addition, UNICEF supported the generation of data through three field surveys to better plan and conduct RCCE interventions.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF Guinea supported the coordination mechanisms to respond to COVID-19, Ebola, and Lassa fever set up at both regional and national levels by the ANSS. An inter-ministerial committee was set up by the Government to interface with the ANSS.

ANSS and UNICEF co-led the following technical sectoral groups of the Ebola response: RCCE, IPC/WASH, Psychosocial Support, and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). UNICEF was also involved in the technical sectoral group on health in emergencies led by WHO.

As part of the joint response plan of the United Nations System, UNICEF led the pillar on Communication and Community Engagement.

UNICEF has developed strategic and operational partnerships with local civil society organizations. The main objective of the partnerships was to support social mobilization and community engagement to promote immunization uptake, IPC, and to provide psychosocial support to infected and affected people by COVID-19 and EVD.

During the Ebola outbreak, UNICEF, as the lead agency for PSEA, facilitated the training of 770 staff (including 361 women) of UN agencies, implementing partners, and Regional Health Directorate, in Nzerekore and in Conakry as well.

In collaboration with the National Service for Humanitarian Affairs, and the Guinean Red Cross, which has a nationwide community-based network of more than 14,000 volunteers, UNICEF continued to support the government in strengthening community-based surveillance through the establishment of local action groups (LAG) for early warning and early response. By the end of the year, the LAG scheme covered 80 rural communes across the country, with the aim of scaling it up to all 342 municipalities nationwide. The LAG involve local leaders and elected officials in the management and local coordination of humanitarian action, while making them real actors and not mere observers of humanitarian interventions.

UNICEF will continue to support community-based interventions in areas where basic social services are severely limited. Also, UNICEF will work to strengthen national health and nutrition systems, support critical services in emergencies, including the prevention and treatment of severe acute malnutrition and immunization against polio and measles. UNICEF is prioritizing access to formal and informal schooling for children affected by health crises and reinforcing the resilience of schools.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Articles (In French)

Initiative COVAX : la Guinée reçoit son premier lot de vaccins contre la COVID-19

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/initiative-covax-la-guin%C3%A9e-re%C3%A7oit-son-premier-lot-de-vaccins-contre-la-covid-19>

L'UNICEF & le Japon, ensemble pour réduire l'impact de la COVID-19 sur la santé des enfants en Guinée

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/lunicef-le-japon-ensemble-pour-r%C3%A9duire-l'impact-de-la-covid19-sur-la-sant%C3%A9-des-enfants-en>

COVID-19 : L'UNICEF remet des ambulances et des kits de protection au Ministère de la Santé

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/covid-19-lunicef-remet-des-ambulances-et-des-kits-de-protection-au-minist%C3%A8re-de-la-sant%C3%A9>

L'impact de la COVID-19 sur la santé des enfants en Guinée

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/lunicef-le-japon-ensemble-pour-r%C3%A9duire-l'impact-de-la-covid19-sur-la-sant%C3%A9-des-enfants-en>

COVID-19 : Kobela a assuré une rentrée des classes sécurisée

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/covid-19-kobela-assur%C3%A9-une-rent%C3%A9e-des-classes-s%C3%A9curis%C3%A9e>

Campagne de vaccination réactive contre les flambées épidémiques de rougeole à Conakry

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/campagne-de-vaccination-r%C3%A9active-contre-les-flamb%C3%A9es-%C3%A9pid%C3%A9miques-de-rougeole-%C3%A0-conakry>

Riposte à Ebola : le personnel soignant se félicite des équipements de protection individuelle reçus

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/riposte-%C3%A0-ebola-le-personnel-soignant-se-f%C3%A9licite-des-%C3%A9quipements-de-protection-individuelle>

Riposte à Ebola : pour les cas suspects, l'UNICEF construit des isolements dans 150 écoles

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/riposte-%C3%A0-ebola-pour-les-cas-suspects-lunicef-construit-des-isolements-dans-150-%C3%A9coles>

Guéri d'Ebola Alexis* dit toute sa reconnaissance à l'UNICEF pour le support psychosocial

<https://www.unicef.org/guinea/recits/gu%C3%A9ri-debola-alexis-dit-toute-sa-reconnaissance-%C3%A0-lunicef-pour-le-support-psychosocial>

Messages on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)

<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1381267854222299136>

<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1376412303634075648>

<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1387024862150078467>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1441341684374118404>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1452209079124992001>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1451855224512131084>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1455175393711898632>

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<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1362084507537575938>

<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1367939570218766353>

<https://twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1370299291621855234>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1433701372067729441>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/justinmoreljr/status/1406299008923050003>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/UNICEFGuinea/status/1438774804165894146>

Photos albums

Cérémonie de remise de savons aux personnes vulnérables

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unicefguinea/albums/72157716340630657>

GAL/USAID

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unicefguinea/albums/72157720123883881>

Cérémonie de lancement officiel de la convention de financement entre le Gouvernement du Japon et l'UNICEF

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unicefguinea/albums/72157718982120750>

Remise officielle au Ministère de la santé du matériel de protection individuelle dans le cadre de la riposte à la Maladie à Virus Ebola (MVE)

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unicefguinea/albums/72157718684272787>

Visite de la Directrice Régionale de l'UNICEF à Nzerekore, Epicentre de Ebola, 25-29 mai, 2021

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unicefguinea/albums/72157719286085911>

Arrivée du 1er lot de matériel

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unicefguinea/albums/72157718517313193>

Videos

JT RTG Remise ambulances au Ministère de la Santé (ANSS)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TuYoSKEJvNE>

JT Evasion- Cérémonie Ambassade du Japon (Ministère de la Sante)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D27Apli8IVs>

Lancement des journées nationales de vaccination – RTG

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_CrdbY9zkg

JT Evasion - Ebola Remise PPE -17 mars 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8iDiaeXJi0>

Visite de la Directrice Régionale de l'UNICEF à N'zérékoré, Epicentre de Ebola, 25-29 mai, 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BvZUKZuZkZQ>

Prise en charge psychosociale des familles infectées et affectées par Ebola à Gouéké

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJ8VjKC-w9U>

Témoignage de la maman de la première et dernière victime de la fièvre de Marburg

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tOdtKhLOeY>

Next SitRep: 30 June 2022

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

UNICEF and IPs Response

Sector	Total needs	2021 target	Total results	Change* ▲▼
Indicators				
Health				
Number of children vaccinated against measles	1,663,795	1,663,795	344,477	▲
Number of children vaccinated against Polio	1,193,577	1,193,577	2,972,004	▲
Number of health care facility staff and community health workers trained on IPC	2,260	2,260	8,671	▲
Nutrition				
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	58,489	58,489	23,478 <i>11,836 girls and 11,642 boys</i>	▲
Number of primary caregivers (women and men) of children aged 0-23 months who received IYCF counselling through facilities and community platforms	1,539,189	1,539,189	152,629 <i>100,185 women and 52,444 men/caregivers of children aged 0-23 months</i>	▲
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months receiving multiple micronutrient powders	1,231,352	1,231,352	26,630 <i>13,224 girls, and 13,006 boys</i>	▲
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA				
Number of children, parents and primary care providers receiving community mental health and psychosocial support	20,000	20,000	7,286 <i>6,861 girls and boys including 425 parents</i>	▲
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions	200,000	200,000	125,009 <i>33,750 women, 72,509 girls and boys</i>	▲
Number of children and adults who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse	4,400,000	4,400,000	55,568 <i>(Including 16,000 girls and 17,458 boys)</i>	▲
Education				
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	1,447,915	1,447,915	2,849,827 <i>1,582,521 boys and 1,267,306 girls</i>	▲
Number of children receiving individual learning materials	40,000	40,000	87,589 <i>(45,389 girls and 42,200 boys)</i>	▲
WASH				
Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	100,000	100,000	265,888	▲
Number of school children accessing appropriate WASH facilities and services in learning spaces	50,000	50,000	56,000	▲
Number of people accessing WASH services in health centers	50,000	50,000	81,240	▲
C4D, Community engagement and AAP				
Number of people participating in engagement actions for social and behavioural change	500,000	500,000	1,411,874	▲
People reached through messaging on access to nutrition, immunization, and education	3,117,022	3,117,022	4,564,371 <i>3,450,882 women</i>	▲

Annex B

Funding Status*

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2021	Resources available from 2020 (Carry-over)	\$	%
Health	3,681,000	1,458,135	1,638,495	584,370	16%
Nutrition	1,929,000	245,591	57,154	1,626,255	84%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	2,124,000	287,495	100,000	1,736,505	82%
Education	2,413,000	135,642	980,982	1,296,376	54%
WASH	1,063,000	1,261,021	340,734	-538,755	-51%
C4D, Community engagement and AAP	590,000	981,888	435,309	-827,197	-140%
Total	11,800,000	4,369,772	3,552,674	3,877,555	33%