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Reporting Period: 01 January to December 2021

NIGER

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 04



Highlights

- The security situation in Niger continued to be significantly impacted by the presence of non-state armed groups, mostly in the regions of Tillabéri, Tahoua and Diffa, by unhindered cross-border incursions of armed groups operating from Nigeria in the Maradi region and the activity of armed criminals conducting roadside banditry and car-jackings in Agadez.
- In 2021, 385,742 under-five children (189,367 girls) suffering from SAM were admitted for treatment (representing 84.4% of the annual target), including 42,487 cases with medical complications.
- 117,003 people were assisted with Non-Food Items and 79,732 with shelter assistance thanks to the RRM and as assessed by 262 multisectoral assessment following 153 emergency alerts. This includes 39,730 people affected by conflicts or floods in Diffa region (Lake Chad Basin Crisis) and 62,618 people in Tahoua and Tillaberi regions (Mali Border Crisis)
- A total of 7,405 COVID-19 cases are reported by the Ministry of Health in 2021 with 6,926 cured and 275 death. Immunization coverage so far is of 13.7% for one dose and 9.7% for two doses.
- A total of 5,591 people has been affected by cholera, including 1,920 children under 15 years old.
- 609,048 children aged 12 months to 14 years old were vaccinated against meningitis in 6 districts following an epidemic

Situation in Numbers

2.1 million

children in need of humanitarian assistance (UNICEF HAC 2021)

3.8 million

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

457,200

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

77,159

Internally displaced children in Tillaberi / Tahoua, out of

140,289

Internally displaced people in Tillaberi / Tahoua (UNHCR, November 2021)

31,417

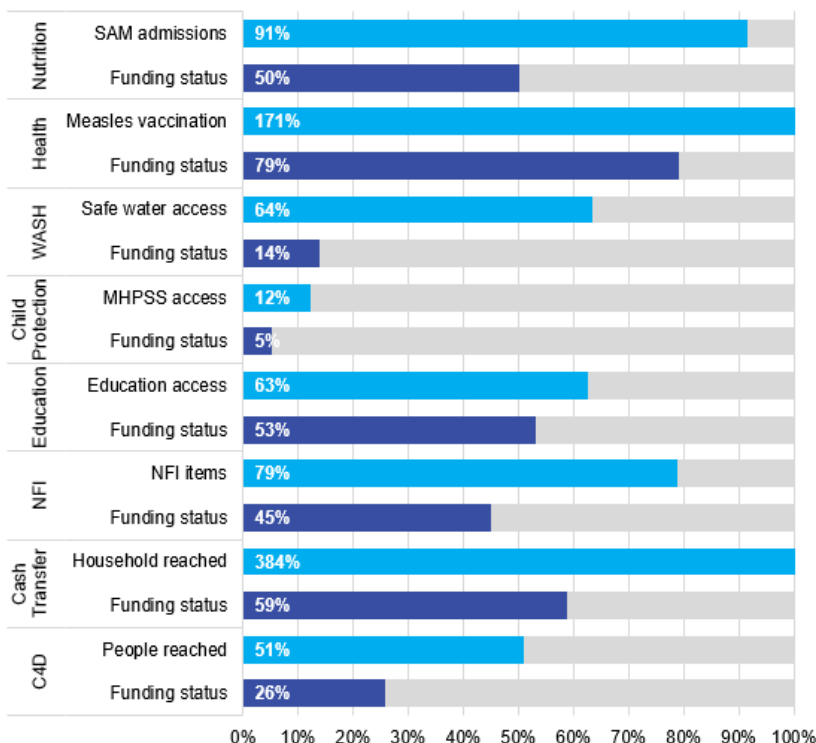
Refugee children in Maradi, out of

57,122

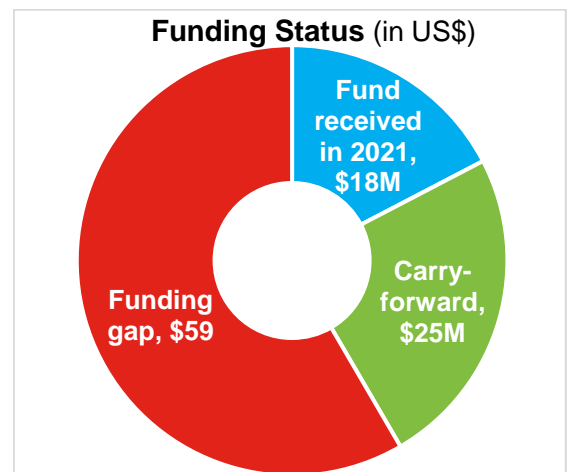
Refugees in Maradi (UNHCR, November 2021)

250,331 people affected by floods (Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management, 04/10/2021)

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status*



UNICEF Appeal 2021 US\$ 102 millions



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

Funding Overview

For its emergency response in Niger, UNICEF launched a US\$102.2M appeal in 2021 to provide vital services to children and women affected by multiple crises in Niger. The humanitarian assistance was provided in coordination with other humanitarian actors under the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan, in partnership with the Government and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO).

While the funds carry-over from 2020 totalled US\$24.8 M (of which US\$17.8 M was mobilized for the COVID-19 response), a total of US\$17.7 M was received throughout the year, which is less than the US\$27.9 M mobilized in 2020.

At the end of the year, a funding gap of US\$59.7 (58.4%) remained. The most critical shortfalls were in the child protection and WASH sectors, followed closely by community engagement and cluster coordination, affecting the coverage of children's and families' essential needs in Niger.

UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all donors for the contributions received that have enabled us to respond to crises and provide essential goods and services. Together, we will continue to support vulnerable populations where it is most needed.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Humanitarian Needs Overview: According to the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), 3.8 million people in Niger needed humanitarian assistance, including 2.1 M children. The 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) targeted 2.1 M people among them including 1.5 M people with life-saving interventions, with a total budget of 523,2 M USD. The low availability of infrastructures and access to social services in Niger are some of the factors underlying the protracted crisis which is associated with population movements fuelled by insecurity, armed conflict, and irregular migration.

An emerging situation was amplified in 2021 with more people crossing the border from northern Nigeria to seek social services in Maradi region in southern Niger. An increase of about 30% of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) from Nigeria was accounted for reaching more than 11,000 cases and a similar situation was seen for pediatric cases in need of treatment. This situation puts pressure on health and nutrition services in Niger which have insufficient human resources to cope with this flux of people and it disturbs essential drugs and therapeutic food supply chain for which Government forecasting does not consider Nigeria citizen. NGOs such as Médecins Sans Frontières are providing additional health and nutrition services to ensure minimum care to women and children in need but more sustainable solutions need to be considered. UNICEF and its partners will raise awareness on this situation to different stakeholders in 2022 as further increase is foreseen in these irregular migrations.

COVID-19 pandemic: In 2021, UNICEF assisted the Government to ensure a continued response while initiating immunization. On 31st December, out of 203 933 tested people, Niger registered 7,405 cases of COVID-19, 6,926 patients healed, 275 deaths and 204 active cases. Solely in the last quarter of the year, 1216 new cases were registered with an average of 13.2 cases per day. The case fatality rate is 3.7% and the cure rate is 93.5%. Most of the cases were identified among the migrants in Agadez region and the travelers in Niamey region. Omicron variant has been detected in Niger in the last week of December in association with an increase in positive COVID-19 cases during the Holidays; numbers to be known in 2022.

COVID-19 vaccination campaign is on-going in all the 8 regions of the country, where 91% of vaccination sites are functional. As of December 31, a total of 1,417,505 people were vaccinated, 13.7% of the National target, while 1,002,477 people fully vaccinated (9.7%). Among them, 780 minor cases of adverse events after immunization (0.1%) and 6 serious cases were notified. Over eight regions, those of Maradi, Diffa and Niamey have each administered more than 80% of the vaccines received illustrating the continued immunization promotion and communication efforts which needs to be amplified in 2022. The main risk associated with this low performance is the loss of vaccine on expiry date and a low community immunity against known COVID-19 variants which could increase the duration of the pandemic in the country.

In 2021, UNICEF and its partners mobilized 6,473 field workers for door-to-door awareness campaign mostly in the regions more advanced with immunization rate. A total of 1,206,160 people were reached through different communication channels (community level and interpersonal discussion, mass communication such as Tv spots, radio messages and blogs) and 1,411,120 people were reached through community radio.

Cholera Epidemic: A cholera outbreak was officially declared by the Ministry of Public Health of Niger on August 9th 2021 and affected all eight regions of the country. A total of 5,591 cases and 166 deaths, including 1,920 children

under 15 years old among whom 29 death is documented. There are no new cases since November 28th 2021 and all outbreaks are extinguished.

Meningitis Epidemic: A total of 1,577 cases of meningitis was declared by the Ministry of Health in 2021. In response to this epidemic, 609,048 children aged 12 months to 14 years (86%) were vaccinated in 6 health districts in three regions with the support of UNICEF, WHO, The Vaccine Alliance (GAVI) and other partners.

Floods: A total of 250,331 people (77 deaths) were affected by the floods mostly in Maradi (104,032 affected), Zinder (29,635 affected) and Tahoua (25,663 affected) regions. UNICEF responded to these punctual crises through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). Along with the NGO consortium members, the 16,100 most vulnerable people (8,855 female) were reached with 2,300 flood kits (hygiene and basic relief items and water purification tablets).

Food security and nutrition situation: The food insecurity situation is deteriorating due to the erratic rainy season of 2021 which is resulting in a poor agricultural harvest and is increasing the risk of drought. Based on the latest IPC analysis (November 2021), 2.6 million people are in phase 3 or higher (crisis and emergency level) during the current period (October-December 2021), and 3.6 million people are projected to be in phase 3 or higher in 2022. This could also lead to a deterioration in the nutrition situation. This situation is aggravated by incursions of Non-State Armed Groups who are destroying granaries and forcing people out leaving field uncultivated in vulnerable areas. The preliminary results of the 2021 national nutrition survey show that the situation in Niger remains alarming. At national level, the prevalence of wasting is 12.5%, with 2.7% for severe wasting prevalence. The prevalence of wasting in the Diffa Region is at emergency level (16.1%), and the prevalence is at serious level (>10%) in 4 other Regions (Agadez, Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder).

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

From January to November 2021, 385,742 under-five children (189,367 girls) suffering from SAM were admitted for treatment in all eight regions (84.4% of the annual target), including 42,487 cases with medical complications. The total number of admissions for SAM as well as the number of cases with medical complications is slightly lower in 2021 compared to same period in 2020, but this could be due to the incomplete data. These results were possible thanks to UNICEF and its donors' support to ensure timely procurement and distribution of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) and other nutrition supplies to health districts and health facilities. Between July and October, over 4 million children each month were screened for acute malnutrition and those in need were referred for treatment to the nearest health facility.

The worrying emerging situation with increased pediatric and acute malnutrition cases (reaching 11,000 SAM children in 2021) coming from northern Nigeria to seek health and nutrition services in Maradi region in southern Niger retains UNICEF's attention. This important additional burden to the Niger Health System may weakened further already fragile services (see Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs for additional information).

Lake Chad Basin crisis

Between January and November 2021, 19,364 under-five children (9,885 girls) suffering from severe wasting (72% of the annual target) were admitted for treatment in Diffa region.

Mali Border crisis (Tahoua and Tillaberi regions)

A total of 104,451 under-five children (52,443 girls) suffering from severe wasting were admitted for treatment in Tahoua and Tillaberi regions between January and November 2021 (105% of the annual target).

Other key nutrition interventions

In February and August 2021, UNICEF supported the Government in the roll-out of the national vitamin A supplementation campaign, which allowed to reach 5,759,355 children 6-59 months nationwide with two doses of vitamin A supplements (92% coverage).

Health

Lake Chad Basin crisis

In Diffa health district, 183 investigative missions were carried out, with 73 cases of cholera referred, hospitalized and treated, and a rate of 0% lethality thanks to UNICEF's pre-positioned inputs for cholera case management in Diffa region. A total of 72 health workers from 6 health districts in this region were also trained in the detection, notification, investigation, and management of cholera cases.

A total of 15 newborn (18.3%) were identified HIV positive following 82 polymerase chain reaction tests (PCR) performed in newborn exposed to HIV. As part of community Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV, 27 community mediators were trained in two health districts (N'guigmi and Bosso). In addition, at least 148 newborn were treated with the Possible Serious Bacterial Infection (PSBI) approach in emergency situations while 250 community relays were retrained in community management of killer diseases in children (malaria, pneumonia, diarrhea).

Mali Border crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

A total of 1,310 cholera cases were recorded in Tahoua region with 67 deaths (5% case fatality which was the highest in nationwide cholera hotspots) and 308 cases and 7 deaths (2.3% case fatality) were recorded in Tillabéri region. In addition, 2,629 children were also cared for under integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) in emergencies in the Torodi health district (Tillabéri). Treatment was possible thanks to the supply prepositioning done by UNICEF in Tillabéri and Tahoua regions prior to the emergency as well as the training of 153 health workers from 7 health districts in Tahoua region on the cholera treatment protocol and support for case investigations.

A total of 25,635 people (children disaggregated data not available) were treated for different health pathologies, including 1,135 refugees, 4,205 internally displaced persons and 20,295 people from the host population in two health districts in insecure situations (Torodi and Ayorou) thanks to mobile clinics supported by UNICEF.

COVID-19 Response

UNICEF worked closely with Supply Division to procure and install 16 ultra-cold units (-90 to -60°C) with a total capacity of 4,512 litres in Niamey and the regions of Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder to store Pfizer vaccines. Support was also offered to the Ministry of Public Health to build four border health posts which are nearing completion, to better filter, detect, and take care of positive COVID-19 travellers.

WASH

Lake Chad Basin crisis Lake Chad Basin crisis

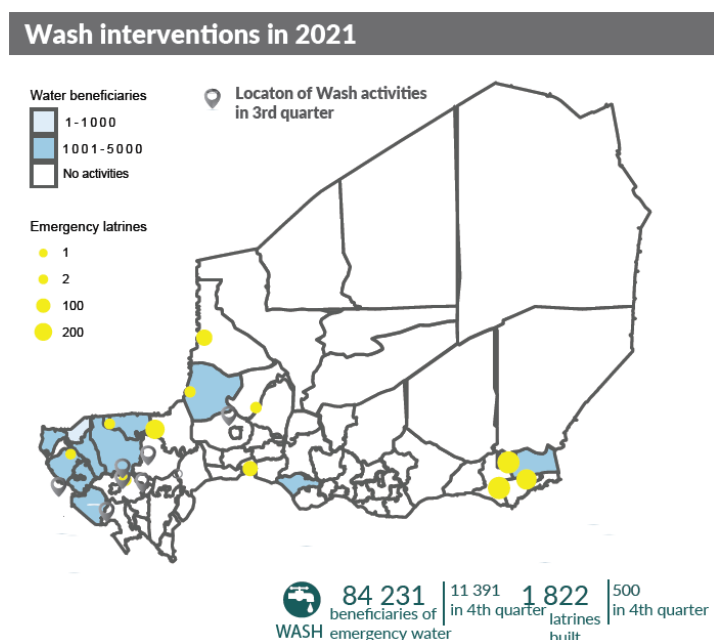
A total of 2,107 people had access to safe drinking water, 9,804 people had access to latrines, 5,952 people were sensitized on hygiene practices and 212 SAM children benefited from WASH kits in Diffa Region thanks to UNICEF. Additionally, WASH Cluster partners reached 13,105 affected people with access to safe drinking water; 11,994 people with access to latrines and 13,187 people with hygiene promotion.

Mali border crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

In 2021, 26,789 people had access to safe drinking water to cover their short-term needs, 2,516 people had access to latrines and 89,810 people were reached with hygiene promotion in Tillabéri and Tahoua regions. Other WASH Cluster partners provided support to 45,837 people for increased access to safe drinking water, 18,657 people with access to latrines and reached 7,118 people with hygiene promotion.

Maradi crisis (Maradi region)

A total of 17,736 people had access to latrines and 70,462 people were reached with hygiene promotion thanks to UNICEF. Meanwhile, WASH cluster partners provided support to 7,517 people with access to safe drinking water and reached 70,600 people with hygiene promotion.



COVID-19 Response

In 2021, UNICEF continued its technical assistance to the Ministry of Public Health as a key member of the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) commission and with the provision of critical IPC supplies (bleach, hydro-alcoholic gel, bins, soaps) and communication material for COVID-19 awareness at national and decentralised levels.

Cholera epidemic

65,149 households were sensitized on cholera prevention including hand washing and benefitted of household water treatment (AQUATAB and PUR) while soaps were distributed to 40,166 households thanks to UNICEF and its implementing partners (NGO DEDI, VISION PLUS and DEMI-E).

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

Lake Chad Basin crisis

In 2021, a total of 232 children (113 girls) were abducted by the GANES (non-state armed groups), followed by demands for ransom. The Regional Directorate in charge of child protection and UNICEF provide psychosocial support to the families of victims and to children through child-friendly spaces and Promotion, Prevention and Protection Centers with the support of NGOs CIAUD and COOPI.

A total of 17,432 children (8,903 girls), including children associated with armed forces or armed groups, unaccompanied or separated children and other vulnerable children received a psychosocial support. Among these children, 226 unaccompanied and separated children received a temporary care before their family reunification.

Mali Border Crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

In 2021, a total of 31,847 people (15,500 females) affected by the crisis were sensitized on protection issues (including protection against child marriage), 5,024 children (2,431 girls) received the psychosocial support, and 355 unaccompanied girls and separated children received transitional care before being reunited with their families. This was possible thanks to the collaboration between the Government, UNICEF and key implementing partners such as NGOs ANTD, CONIPRAT, COOPI and Grandir Dignement.

National Level and Others Crisis

Overall, the increased number of grave violations against children is due to the ongoing security situation. The operational context of the Diffa region remains marked by the activism of non-state armed groups, during the last quarter of 2021 mainly the abduction of people against the demand for ransoms which has become a privileged activity by members of the NSAGs belonging to Boko Haram.

In Agadez, 3,673 (1,352 girls) received alternative care, psychosocial support, and COVID-19 protection gears. Most of them were aged from 0 to 12 (1,334 /769 girls) and from Zinder region (1,893 /1,053 girls). Among them there were 2019 unaccompanied and separated children on the move (1,095 girls). All children on the move were reunited with their families.

In Maradi, 22,243 displaced peoples (16,488 females) following attacks have benefited from awareness raising on child protection issues and 2,483 children (856 girls) received psychosocial support, including access to child-friendly spaces

COVID-19 Response

Prevention of child violence and other protection issues continued through small groups gatherings or door to door visit for household members sensitization.

Child Protection Sub-cluster

In 2021, the Ministry of the Promotion of Women and Child Protection and UNICEF reinforced the coordination by establishing and training Child Protection Working Groups in Tahoua, Maradi and Tillabéri in addition to the existing one in Diffa region.

Education

A total of 108,015 (52,355 girls) children were supported for access and continuity of education in crisis areas. UNICEF supported the education of 7,262 children displaced by insecurity (IDPs and refugees), including 3,823 girls in the Diffa region. This support was provided in the form of a protective environment and school supplies to improve the quality of education.

Lake Chad Basin crisis

In 2021, a total of 23,500 (11,985 girls) students were enrolled in UNICEF's supported schools, of which 2,100 are accessing the 35 evolving classes. School support includes teaching materials, school supplies and evolving classes. In addition to improved access to school, performance quality of 30 (18 women) teachers was improved following training, coaching and supervision thanks to UNICEF support through the NGO ADES

Mali Border Crisis (Tahoua and Tillabéri regions)

84,515 (30,761 girls) participated in primary education through UNICEF-supported programmes, in the regions of Tahoua and Tillabéri. In Tillia and Tassara municipalities, 1,500 out-of-school children (671 girls) benefitted from vocational training in local trades and jobs placement kits thanks to UNICEF and its partner IED.

National Level and Others Crisis

In Niamey, 3,900 children (1,989 girls) benefitted from 21 newly constructed permanent classrooms thanks to UNICEF following the fire which destroyed the school named "Pays-Bas" in April 2021. Jointly with the Ministry of Education, 60 teachers (48 women) were trained in psycho-social first aid for the care of children who witnessed the atrocities of the fire.

In addition, 1,500 students can continue their classes thanks to the construction of 31 emergency classrooms which collapsed following floods.

COVID-19 Response

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Education activities and services continued to be implemented throughout the year, while adopting the recommended protective measures.

Cluster sector

Thanks to joint UNICEF and OCHA advocacy and fund mobilization, the NGOs NRC and ICHAD are recipients of the Regional Humanitarian Fund to implement two emergency education projects aimed at reopening 150 out of 579 closed schools in Tillabéri region.

Social Protection and Cash Transfers

Flood assistance

In 2021, 3,126 households of displaced persons and victims of natural disasters received assistance through humanitarian cash transfers, which represents 19,202 people assisted (3,373 women, 3,837 men, 6,005 girls and 5,987 boys). In addition, 6,438 persons were assisted in the Diffa region, 4,972 people assisted Tahoua and Tillabéri regions, and 7,792 people were assisted in the Maradi region. This was possible thanks to the integration of cash transfer into the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) under the UNICEF's coordination and training of 17 staff of the Government and NGO partners.

COVID-19 Response

In 2021, a total of 404,480 households in both rural and urban areas across the eight regions of Niger affected by the COVID-19 crisis was targeted for a one-off cash transfer of 45 000 CFA (about 77 USD) as part of the scale-up of the national COVID-19 emergency cash transfer programme.

National Level and Others Crisis

At the height of the lean season, 32,659 vulnerable beneficiaries in nine municipalities (224 villages) in the regions of Tahoua, Dosso and Tillabery, benefitted from cash transfer thanks to UNICEF.

To increase flexibility and rapid response in case of emergency, a roster of six NGO partners (IRC, DEDI, World Vision, Inter SOS, Save the Children and CARE) is now active. One of the partners (IRC) has been identified for the use of the HOPE platform (Humanitarian Cash Operation and Ecosystem Program) to facilitate efficient data management in humanitarian cash transfers.

The national cash transfer system's risk management and transparency and accountability measures were strengthened with mitigation measures fully implemented for the 17 programmatic risks identified. A risk management plan for cases of sexual exploitation and abuse was developed and is being implemented by the Social protection working group and all contractors of the COVID-19 cash transfer response. In addition, UNICEF supported a survey to collect feedback from cash transfer beneficiaries on the effectiveness of the transfers and to inform further actions. Results will be disclosed in 2022.

C4D, community engagement and AAP

Lake Chad Basin crisis

In 2021, in Diffa region, a gathering of 52,404 persons, including traditional leaders, in Maine-Soroa, Bosso, Diffa, Guiguimi and Goudoumaria departments benefitted from peace promotion through community dialogue. This action was essential following the Governmental decision to relocate the population who fled away from unidentified armed groups. A total of six community radios broadcasted messages about cohesion and peace, and Cholera preventive measures.

COVID-19 Response

About 9,940,314 people were reached nationwide with messages on prevention and vaccination through radios, television, door-to-door campaign, influencers (celebrities, traditional and religious leaders) and LED billboards on 32 crossroad points in main cities, including the capital. A total of 889 institutional and civil society actors were trained in risk communication and community engagement for increased Covid-19 prevention and immunization demand generation.

Two-way communication has been ensured through an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) based feedback survey and via Community Surveillance Committees which have remained the main feedback and complaints collection mechanisms.

UNICEF actions were possible thanks to the continued technical assistance provided to the National Covid-19 Behavior and Social Change Coordination Commission led by the Ministry of Health.

Cholera epidemic

5,523,366 people were reached with messaging on cholera prevention measures through mass-media and community actions in cholera hotspots.

National Level and Others Crisis

About 1,037,542 people located in areas with internally displaced people or refugees or as host populations, were sensitized on social cohesion through mass-communication via community radios and Accountability to Affected Population community committees and community dialogues (home visits, group discussion etc.).

Non-Food Items (NFI)

Lake Chad Basin crisis

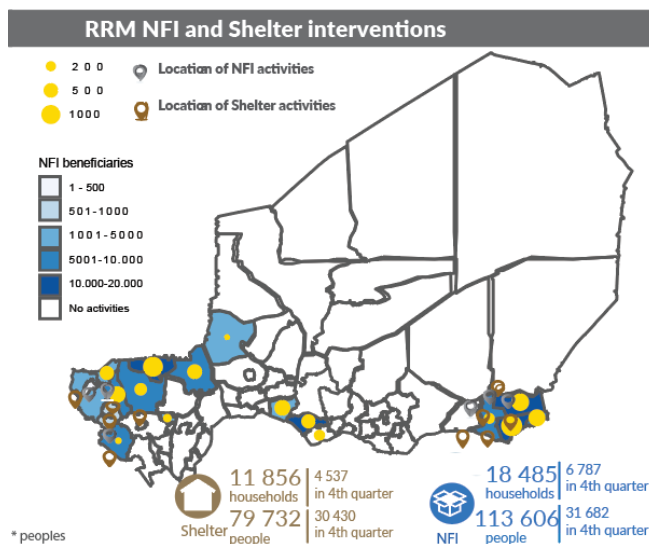
In 2021, 39,730 people (6,269 households) affected by conflicts in Diffa region benefitted from non-food items (NFI) kits and/or shelter assistance thanks to the dedicated RRM NGO consortium and UNICEF joint actions.

Mali Border crisis (Tahoua and Tillaberi regions)

A total of 62,618 people (affected by conflicts in Tahoua and Tillaberi regions) received 10,619 NFI kits and/or shelter assistance through the RRM NGO Consortium.

National Level and Others Crisis

Overall, the RRM responded to 117,003 people in need following the reception of 153 alerts and the completion of 262 multisectoral assessments. All alerts were associated with population movements due to insecurity.



A revised RRM Common Framework was adopted by the RRM Strategic Group which brought, among others, specifications for improved supply management between partners for faster response. UNICEF is an active member of this strategic group. A total of nine monthly instant reports were produced and a dynamic online dashboard was regularly updated and can be found on the following weblink: https://rrm-niger.shinyapps.io/rrm_niger_dashboard/

RapidPro¹

| Sector | Real time reporting on alerts and service functionality | | | |
|------------------|---|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Target reports | Received reports | Registered alert reports | Addressed alert reports |
| WASH | 1 134 | 942 | 3 | 0 |
| Health | 24 900 | 15 336 | NA | NA |
| Education | 6 427 | 4 181 | 54 | 0 |
| C4D | 5 750 | 4 076 | 6 | 0 |
| Child Protection | 1 656 | 372 | 52 | 0 |

In 2021, 103 secondary schools out of 280 (37%) in Tillabéri region have been geolocated thanks to RapidPro and a follow-up mechanism is being implemented with the Ministry of Education to achieve a 100% result.

A total of 15,336 daily reports (61.5%) of malaria and cholera potential cases out of the 24,900 expected reports were collected. In addition, 4,076 community surveillance reports (71%) out of the 5,750 expected reports were received on COVID-19. The collected data assisted the Ministry of Public Health and its partners in the epidemic response mainly for case and stock management.

During this last quarter of the year, RapidPro reached a record of health-related alerts for the Ministry of Health in Niamey region. However,

the major challenge remains the data validation by the district level focal points to ensure the reliability of the information collected via the platform.

Communication and Advocacy

COVID-19 Response

UNICEF supported the Government on mass and risk communications, including the development of messaging, production and dissemination of public awareness material, engagement of media, influencers and celebrities, and effective use of digital platforms. More than 17 million users were reached in 2021 on social media platforms used by UNICEF, many of them as part of COVID-19 sensitization campaigns. Vaccines were regularly received with the Government and donor representatives at the airport or covered through press releases.

National level

The Country Office issued 18 press releases and statements, advocating for the rights of children struck by emergencies, commenting on attacks on or fires in schools, denouncing fake news or thanking partners and donors, and participated in several regional and global initiatives like the framework of the Central Sahel and special awareness initiatives for the HAC 2021. The Communication and Child Protection sections also supported the Government and the African Union to organize the 3rd African Girl Summit in November in Niamey.

More than 75 events were organized, including a face-to-face exchange between children and youths with four ministers and a session at the national parliament for the Day of the African Child. As part of the celebration of UNICEF's 75th anniversary, UNICEF ensured high-level visibility of UNICEF at the venue and across the city. On 20 November, one Slam for Peace was performed in a cultural center in Niamey: 24 children and youths from across the country shared their stories of deprivation and hope through artistic tools and skills they had learned in a workshop.

¹ <https://rapidproniger.azurewebsites.net/>

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

Through the Nutrition Technical Group, UNICEF, together with other partners, supported the Government in the formulation of national commitments for the 2021 Nutrition for Growth Summit and participated in the country priority identification for the Food System Summit.

On the coordination front, UNICEF has been contributing to the Government established coordination mechanisms and reporting system (one health committees) at national and regional levels while mobilizing and supporting cluster partners by convening and leading weekly national WASH cluster meetings and undertaking field trips to support response and coordination in three regions (Maradi, Tillabery, Dosso).

As a member of the Multisectoral Cash Working group (MSCWG), UNICEF contributed to the preparation and validation of the second phase of the implementation of the MEB (Minimum Expenditure Basket) tool for implementation in 2022.

As part of the regional protection sectoral coordination, UNICEF Niger participated to the validation of the Plan for Strengthening Protection and Solutions in the context of forced displacement in the Sahel. A Regional Technical Committee to follow-up on this plan's implementation was set up; UNICEF is an active member of this committee.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Statement by the UNICEF Regional Director following attacks on children and families in Niger :

<https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/least-thirteen-children-killed-latest-attack-children-and-families-niger>

UNICEF press release on education under attack:

<https://www.unicef.org/niger/press-releases/over-300-schools-forced-close-niger-due-insecurity-affecting-more-22000-children>

ECHO press release on education under attack

<https://www.africanews.com/2021/09/09/over-300-schools-forced-to-close-in-niger-due-to-insecurity-affecting-more-than-22-000-children/>

World Humanitarian Day:

<https://www.unicef.org/niger/stories/putting-smile-childs-face-our-best-reward>

ECHO press release:

<https://www.dailyadvent.com/news/9ec371f41b2d43d11752ab79413cefc9-Additional-27-million-from-the-EU-Humanitarian-Aid-to-tackle-child-malnutrition-in-Niger--Niger>

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UNICEF Niger Twitter: www.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>

Next SitRep: March 2022

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

| Sector | Overall needs | UNICEF and IPs Response | | | Cluster/Sector Response | | |
|---|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| | | 2021 target ² | 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 | 418,235 | 268,877▲ | 457,200 | 418,235 | 268,877▲ |
| Health | | | | | | | |
| # of children (6 months-14 years) in humanitarian situations vaccinated against measles | n.a | 120,000 | 205,363 | - | | | |
| # of people affected by conflict and disease outbreaks having received access to primary health care | n.a | 85,000 | 73,944 | 30,450▲ | | | |
| # of healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases | n.a | 500 | 480 | 450▲ | | | |
| # of coordination meetings held with the support of UNICEF (technical and / or financial) | n.a | 36 | 65 | - | | | |
| # of health centres equipped as triage centres | n.a | 45 | - | - | | | |
| WASH | | | | | | | |
| # people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene | 1,125,880 | 378,097 | 240,121 | 44,802▲ | 540,139 | 385,936 | 140,340▲ |
| # people affected by an outbreak of water-borne disease accessing hygiene kits and sensitization activities | 1,125,880 | 788,116 | 1,092,761 | 622,483▲ | 1,125,880 | 1,320,901 | 777,226▲ |
| # of malnourished children admitted for SAM/MAM and benefiting WASH minimum package in the community | 1,125,880 | 88,283 | 6,566 | 212▲ | 176,565 | 9,590 | 1,592▲ |
| # people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines | n.a | 296,671 | 49,205 | 31,052▲ | 423,815 | 103,546 | 51,899▲ |
| # of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services | n.a | 50,000 | 69,496 | 667▲ | 213,196 | 69,496 | 667▲ |
| # of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) | n.a | 750 | 26 | 26▲ | 850 | 26 | 26▲ |
| # of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) | n.a | 500 | 192 | 26▲ | 620 | 316 | 150▲ |
| Child Protection | | | | | | | |
| # of children and caregivers reached with psychosocial support, including access to child-friendly spaces | | 152,503 | 18,850 | 7,454▲ | 212,823 | 29,144 | 7,004▲ |
| # of registered unaccompanied and separated children benefiting from family tracing and reunification services and family-based care or alternative care arrangements (includes CAAFAG) | 678,107 | 1,140 | 2,801 | 1,509▲ | 4,256 | 2,915 | 1,600▲ |
| #women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions | | 3,600 | 133 | 128▲ | 7,200 | 727 | 685▲ |
| # children affected by the crisis benefiting from sensitization | | 283,569 | 73,598 | 41,059▲ | 453,828 | 107,904 | 47,535▲ |
| # children and adults that have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse | | 300 | - | - | 300 | - | - |
| Education | | | | | | | |

² Following HRP revisions, some targets have been revised

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|------------|---------|---------|--------|
| # children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning | 255,000 | 125,000 | 78,180 | 9,938▲ | 230,000 | 104,226 | 9,938▲ |
| # children receiving individual learning materials | 255,000 | 125,000 | 38,029 | 9,609▲ | 230,000 | 62,526 | 9,609▲ |
| # 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 | 19,202 | 17,344▲ | | | |
| # households reached with cash transfers through an existing Government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding | n.a | 75,779 | 32,659 | 32,659▲ | | | |
| C4D, community engagement and AAP | | | | | | | |
| # people reached through messaging on access to services (including COVID-19 related messages) | 12,000,000 | 12,000,000 | 9,940,314 | 6,588,548▲ | | | |
| # people participating in engagement actions (for social and behavioural change) | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 2,377,961 | 1,697,428▲ | | | |
| # 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 | 66,653 | 43,027▲ | | | |
| Non-Food Items | | | | | | | |
| # of displaced persons and people affected by natural disasters provided with NFI kits | 863,000 | 171,500 | 135,402 | 79,935▲ | | | |

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 | 10,850,579 | - | 4,919,908 | - | 4,919,908 | 15,594,237 | 50% |
| Health | 2,545,000 | 342,526 | - | 1,422,584 | 248,000 | 1,670,584 | 531,891 | 21% |
| Water, sanitation and hygiene | 14,783,338 | 1,393,844 | - | 661,924 | - | 661,924 | 12,727,569 | 86% |
| Child protection | 10,733,010 | 206,860 | - | 198,198 | 162,439 | 360,637 | 10,165,513 | 95% |
| Education | 12,240,170 | 605,884 | - | 299,153 | 5,592,899 | 5,892,052 | 5,742,234 | 47% |
| Social protection and cash transfers* | 18,046,061 | 617,589 | - | - | 9,976,061 | 9,976,061 | 7,452,411 | 41% |
| C4D, community engagement and AAP | 3,100,000 | 260,986 | - | 204,532 | 335,468 | 540,000 | 2,299,014 | 74% |
| Non-food items / shelter | 7,821,489 | 3,229,952 | - | 293,756 | - | 293,756 | 4,297,781 | 55% |
| Cluster/sector coordination | 1,601,925 | 238,453 | - | 467,960 | - | 467,960 | 895,512 | 56% |
| Total | 102,235,717 | 17,746,673 | 0 | 8,468,014 | 16,314,867 | 24,782,881 | 59,706,163 | 58.40% |

**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.*