



Children attend remedial classes to prepare for the start of the school year at a displacement site.

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Humanitarian Situation Report No. 9

Reporting Period
1 January to 31
December 2022

Mali

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2022, the humanitarian situation in Mali remained worrying characterised by armed conflict, human rights violations, including grave violations of children's right, climate hazards including floods, a measles epidemic as well as the prevalence food insecurity and malnutrition. 7.5 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance including 5.1 million children. The number of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) exceeded 412,000.

UNICEF and its partners implemented a coordinated response to meet the needs of the most vulnerable children and communities: 121,888 conflict-affected people (out of which 65,515 children) received emergency Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) assistance; 529 children (including 84 girls) were released from Non-State Armed Groups and 2,230 unaccompanied and separated children (including 767 girls) benefitted from holistic care; 165,648 children were treated for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). Support was provided to 64,515 children (including 34,540 girls) allowing them to access education in conflict affected areas.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS



5,100,000

Children in need of humanitarian assistance



7,500,000

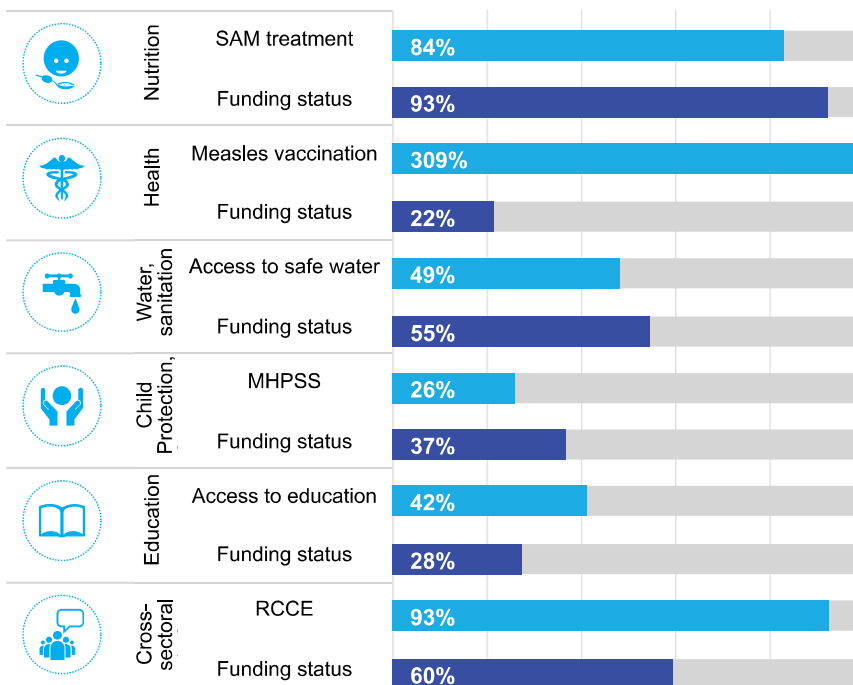
People in need of humanitarian assistance



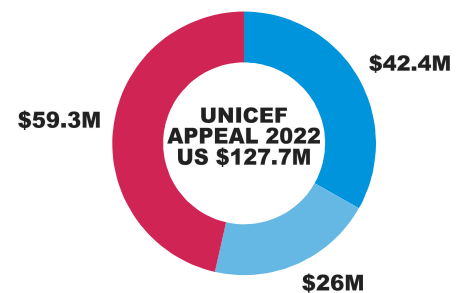
412,387

Internally Displaced Persons¹

UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*



FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



● Humanitarian Resources
● 2021 carry over
● Funding gap

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

* UNICEF response % is only for the indicator, the funding status is for the entire sector.

FUNDING OVERVIEW AND PARTNERSHIPS^{2,3}

2022 was marked by increased humanitarian needs in Mali, with a Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal of US\$ 127.7 million (compared to US\$ 119 million in 2021). On 18 July 2022, the UNICEF Executive Director declared a Level 2 (L2) 'corporate emergency activation' for the Sahel, including Mali, to further enhance support from across the organisation to scale up UNICEF's response.

UNICEF's resource mobilisation and advocacy efforts included the organisation of round table discussions with partners present in Mali, for (1) the 2022 Mali HAC launch, (2) the Menaka emergency, and (3) the L2 Sahel emergency, during the visit of the global Emergency Director Manuel Fontaine. These round tables were well attended, including at Ambassador level, and very well received by the donors, who appreciated the opportunity for a transparent discussion, and for the needs from both UNICEF and the donors to be clearly detailed and discussed.

Furthermore, UNICEF Mali participated in Virtual Donor Events, including live reports from the field on the nutrition crisis and response, and the impact of the Ukraine crisis on Mali. UNICEF hosted a mission from Headquarters, to document the humanitarian response. Mali was featured in the launch of the Global HAC Appeal for 2023, held in late 2022, which was broadcasted from Bamako. The event was attended by public and private donors and National Committees from around the world, and provided an opportunity for greater visibility for donors on Malian children's needs.

As of 31st December 2022, US\$ 68.4 million were mobilised for against the HAC appeal, representing 54 per cent of the total appeal amount. 10 per cent of funds available were flexible, thematic funds. Mali was one of the best funded countries for the L2 Sahel emergency. Thanks goes to donors providing flexible, earmarked, multi-year funding, which facilitates greater impact for children. The funding gap was US\$ 59.3 million, representing 46 per cent of the total appeal amount. The gap was greatest in the sectors of Health (78 per cent underfunded), Education (72 per cent underfunded) and Child Protection (63 per cent underfunded).

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

In 2022, the humanitarian context continued to deteriorate in Mali. The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance was around 7.5 million, including 5.1 million children, while the number of IDPs exceeded 412,000.

Flooding and other climate change risks had a severe impact on the people of Mali. Heavy rains and flooding have affected more than 79,000 people, and destroyed more than 8,200 houses, mainly in Timbuktu, Mopti, Koulikoro and Segou regions (OCHA, as of 10 November 2022). This is a significant increase compared to 19,000 people affected in 2021.

The measles outbreak remained a concern in 2022, with 761 suspected measles cases that were reported throughout the country. In addition, the COVID-19 outbreak affected all 20 regions, with a total of 11,762 confirmed cases in 2022, with 83 deaths (cumulatively, since the beginning of the pandemic, there have been 32,770 confirmed cases, with 743 deaths).

In 2022, Mali continued to be affected by a major multi-dimensional political, security, and geopolitical crisis. At the political level, delays on the timeline for the political transition, including for the

organisation of legislative and presidential elections, led the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to adopt economic and financial sanctions, from January to July 2022. On 6 June 2022, the duration of the ongoing political transition in Mali was set at 24 months from 26 March 2022. The agreement between the Malian authorities and ECOWAS on the extension of the transition timetable allowed for the partial lifting of the sanctions imposed on Mali and the resumption of the reform process.

Constraints on humanitarian access have increased, and the intensification of clashes between non-state armed groups, as well as military operations, have led to a narrowed humanitarian space. Insecurity on several roads remained a constraint, as humanitarian access is heavily dependent on road infrastructure. Sabotage by non-state armed groups appeared as a strategy for isolating the population, with significant consequences for access to basic social services. Targeted or non-targeted attacks against civilians further isolate communities, undermine confidence in the State and disrupt main supply routes.

The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) reported 239 civilian casualties from Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) in 2022, with 72 people killed and 167 injured. Mopti region is the most affected, followed by Segou region. The period from March to June 2022 saw a significant increase in incidents of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) due to continued fighting between armed groups in Ménaka region and the expansion of the threat southwards, particularly to Koulikoro, Sikasso and Kayes regions.

Insecurity also affected humanitarian workers, with over 100 attacks reported in 2022.

The Central Sahel region was declared a Level 2 emergency for UNICEF on 18 July 2022, covering Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso and five coastal countries (Benin, Togo, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Guinea). UNICEF used simplified emergency procedures, which facilitated the scale-up of the emergency response.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

Health



A nurse is vaccinating a 9-month-old boy against measles, yellow fever and meningitis in the presence of his mother at the Sévaré 2 Community Health Centre, in the Mopti region.

Since 1st January 2022, 761 cases of measles were reported in Mali, compared to 828 in 2021, a decrease of 8 per cent. Most cases were recorded in the regions of Sikasso (31 per cent), Kayes (17 per

cent) and Ségou (16 per cent). From January to December, 617,123 children aged 6 months to 9 years were vaccinated. The vaccine response was implemented in sixteen (16) health districts between weeks 3 to 52 of 2022. The health districts that organised the response were Commune I, II, IV, V (Bamako region); Fana, Kangaba, Banamba, Kati, Oullesbougou (Koulikoro region); Koutiala, Sikasso and Kadiolo (Sikasso region); Bla and Markala (Segou region); and Sefeto and Nioro (Kayes region). UNICEF also provided 1.7 million doses of measles vaccine to support the national response to the epidemic.

In 2022, despite a high epidemiological risk, no cases of polio were recorded in the country, due to Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus (cVDPV2) vaccination. The Government, with the support of UNICEF, organised sustained polio immunisation campaigns, and strengthened epidemiological surveillance and the investigation of suspected cases.

In 2022, 156,338 pregnant women had access to an Antenatal Care (ANC). As part of routine vaccination, 173,853 children under one year of age received a dose of Penta (including 88,665 girls), 218,618 children under five (including 111,495 girls) were treated for malaria and 68,470 children under five (including 34,920 girls) received adequate treatment for diarrhoea. Furthermore, 218,618 children (including 111,495 girls) received treatment for Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI). UNICEF continued to support birth registration, with 83,932 children (including 42,805 girls) reported at birth out of 105,983 registered live births.

As of 31st December 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic had affected all 20 regions, with a total of 32,770 confirmed cases, including 743 deaths. The mortality rate reported stood at 2.26 per cent, and the recovery rate at 97.49 per cent. In the last three months of the year, a decrease in the number of cases was observed, with 95 confirmed cases in October, 26 in November and 10 in December.

As of 31st December 2022, 2,777,674 people in Mali were fully immunised, as part of a COVID-19 vaccination campaign led by the Government and supported by UNICEF, WHO and USAID. This represents 12.68 per cent of the total population. Significant progress was made in 2022 on COVID-19 vaccination compared to 2021: 2,371,954 people were fully vaccinated in 2022 compared to 405,720 people in 2021

Nutrition



A health worker weighs a child, as part of the process to assess his nutritional status, at the general hospital in Gao, capital of the north-eastern Gao Region.

In 2022, the nutritional situation deteriorated and humanitarian access to basic services decreased especially in northern and

central regions (Assongo, Anderambukane, Inekar, Kidal, Bankas, and Koro) where approximately twenty health facilities were closed or offered minimum services due to security concerns. The national SMART survey conducted in July 2022 revealed a prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) of 10.8 per cent with a much higher prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) of 2.1 per cent compared to the previous year (GAM of 10% and SAM of 1.8% in 2021). Disparities were observed in different regions with the Gao region surpassing the emergency threshold of 15 per cent GAM.

Further analysis through the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) of acute malnutrition conducted in September 2022 showed that 16 out of 56 cercles at the second administrative level were in an emergency while other 14 cercles were on alert. This in line with the result of the IPC food security analysis (Cadre Harmonisé) conducted in November 2022 which indicated that more than 500,000 people were acutely food insecure (emergency and crisis phases).

UNICEF and its partners continued to provide support for prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition in 2022. In total, 165,648 children suffering from SAM, out of 197,671 SAM cases targeted throughout the year, were admitted and treated in fixed and mobile therapeutic feeding units, giving a coverage of 84 per cent. UNICEF supported all 1,665 functional treatment units for acute malnutrition through the provision of supplies and equipment required for treatment, as well as temporary support in terms of additional human resources. A particular focus was placed on crisis affected regions such as the north of the country, to ensure the uninterrupted provision of nutrition care services. UNICEF has been the main and sole provider of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) in 2022, amounting to 201,215 cartons of (covering 100 per cent of the needs).

In 2022, during the first round of the week of intensification of nutrition actions (SIAN), a total of 6,861,314 children aged 6-59 months received one dose of vitamin A supplementation, and 5,874,443 children aged 12-59 months benefitted from deworming. The second round took place in late December 2022. In addition, 5,026,503 children under five were screened for acute malnutrition at community level by community actors including 1,256,626 mothers.

As the cluster lead for Nutrition, UNICEF continued working on strengthening coordination mechanisms. A total of 12 monthly nutrition coordination meetings were held at the national levels, with nutrition actors involved in humanitarian response with a focus on building relationships, operational, technical, and strategic issues and continuing situation and gap analysis. In addition, a total of 33 sub-cluster regional coordination meetings took place in Timbuktu (6), Mopti (9), Gao (10) and Menaka (8). The cluster enhanced inter-cluster coordination with the WASH, Health, Food Security and Protection Clusters, facilitating service provision and strengthening joint analysis, planning and response. Furthermore, with support from the Global Nutrition Cluster, 25 selected cluster partners were trained on cluster coordination.

At community level, 777 new community platforms were created to strengthen prevention activities. UNICEF strengthened capacities of community platforms in an additional six regions, increasing the number to 6,277 platforms nationwide. As a result, 720,040 child caregivers (including 540,030 pregnant and lactating women) received education and counselling on essential family practices, including Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices and early psycho-cognitive stimulation.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA⁴



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Children playing swing at a child-friendly space built by UNICEF in Ménaka

In 2022, UNICEF and its partners provided psychosocial support to 97,689 conflict affected children (including 48,064 girls), representing 33 per cent of the annual target. At the area of responsibility (AoR) level, this number adds up to 121,954 children (including 60,795 girls) that participated in psychosocial and recreational activities in safe spaces, representing 12 per cent of the annual target. Games and recreational activities available at these spaces were chosen by the communities (social workers, parents and children) and considered local specificities and cultural sensitivities. The underachievement for this indicator, both for the AoR and for UNICEF, is partly explained by lack of funding, difficulty in accessing intervention areas, the insufficient number of implementing partners in this field, and insufficient government capacity.

In 2022, central and northern Mali remained had the highest rates of severe violations affecting children: 1,029 grave violations against children were verified from January to September alone, in comparison to 1,036 violations verified throughout the entire year of 2022. Ménaka, Gao and Timbuktu regions accounted for almost 55 per cent of verified grave violations against children. Lack of access and security constraints in targeted areas, impacted the monitoring and reporting of grave violations against children, as well as their reunification and provision of response and follow-up. Despite this, UNICEF was able to continue to work, relying on its network of local partners (localisation agenda) and good relations and collaboration with community members, who have a better access to hard-to-reach areas.

UNICEF provided care and services for 529 children (including 84 girls) released from armed groups, in the regions of Kidal, Ménaka, Gao, Nioro, Segou, Timbuktu, Taoudenit, Mopti, Bandiagara and Bamako, which represents 88 per cent of the target. Likewise, 2,230 unaccompanied and separated children - UASC (including 767 girls) were reached with holistic care in a family-based environment or a suitable alternative, representing 186 per cent of the annual target. The augmentation of the number of UASC not only illustrates the deterioration of humanitarian situation in the country, but also reflects counterparts' reinforced capacity in identifying and responding to UASC needs.

The slight underachievement of assistance to Children Associated with Armed Forces and Groups (CAAFAG) is contra-balanced by the overachievement of targeted UASC, as most CAAFAG and UASC benefit from the same holistic interim first response (medical care, psychosocial support, food and shelter). Furthermore, the difficulty in addressing certain sensitive issues is to be highlighted, particularly

regarding the recruitment and use of children in armed groups and gender-based violence (GBV).

Host family placement for UASC and CAAFAG has proven to be a satisfactory alternative to holistic care at transit centres (CTOs). Temporary host families were trained on holistic management of the UASC and CAAFAG, including child protection concepts and basic techniques for providing mental support. Each host families receives a cash amount per child hosted to help with the expenses. Protection agents visit the host families 2 or 3 times a week to ensure their follow-up and provide psychosocial support through exchanges and discussions with the families.

Most of the UASC and CAAFAG identified were reunited with their families, through collaboration with governmental entities and community leaders. However, some cases are still pending reunification, mainly due to constant displacement and difficulty of accessing certain zones. As part of the community acceptance strategy, good relations and collaboration with community leaders and local protection committees is crucial for the reunification of these children, as community members are familiar with families and have more access to hard-to-reach areas.

It is also worth noting that the promotion of socioeconomic support, such as vocational training opportunities, for adolescents in regions prone to conflict is an important component for child protection in emergency response, as it provides them with an alternative to formal education and could shield them from recruitment by armed groups.

UNICEF, during the year, supported actions to inform communities, including women and girls, to report or complain about sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) through the mechanisms in place. 71,053 people, including 15,320 women and 20,040 girls, were sensitised and informed on sexual exploitation and abuse and had access to at least one safe and accessible channel to report SEA. UNICEF continues to strengthen and work closely with its implementing partners to fulfil their accountability to maintain and create a safe environment for women and children. At least 197 personnel (including 57 women) of 69 implementing partners, including local authorities, were trained on the prevention of SEA (PSEA) and GBV risk mitigation. These activities include consultations with women and girls to identify their needs and recommendations, information on GBV services available for survivors, specific training on GBV risk mitigation, and distribution of dignity kits. 52,490 women, girls, and boys were reached.

The risk factors related to SEA and GBV remain very high in Mali, characterised by extremely high levels of insecurity, and limited coverage of prevention and mitigation activities and response services.

As the humanitarian situation deteriorates, and armed conflict escalates, more girls and boys, as well as their families, are at risk of family separation, displacement, violence, exploitation, and abuse. The funding gap for Child Protection, GBV and SEA activities further threatens the wellbeing of women and children exposed to risks and violence and in need of humanitarian interventions.

As Co-lead of the Child Protection Area of responsibility / Sub Cluster, UNICEF supported the 2022 Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM). Preliminary results show all indicators as scoring good (14) or satisfactory (5). Indicators that scored satisfactory mainly relate to a lack of analysis and newsletters on Child Protection, as well as a response gap after a Rapid Protection Assessment. Cluster members are discussing solutions and follow up actions.

Education



A displaced teacher teaches arithmetic in a temporary learning space set up by UNICEF in an internally displaced persons camp.

In 2022, UNICEF and partners improved access to education for 64,515 children (including 34,540 girls) in conflict affected areas through formal and non-formal education, out of which 121,512 children (including 61,341 girls) were provided with learning materials to improve their access to quality education. Finally, in its efforts to further strengthen prevention against COVID-19 in schools, UNICEF supported 620 schools/learning spaces to implement the COVID protocol.

The annual target for children accessing formal or non-formal education was 155,00 and UNICEF reached 64,515 children, while the annual target for children receiving individual learning materials was 430,000 people, compared to 36,148 reached. These gaps are mainly due to a lack of funding (the funding gap in 2022 was \$14,5 million, or almost 72 per cent of the total financial needs), which impacts on the capacity to deliver results for children. Also, due to a global market disrupted by constraints related to the COVID-19 Pandemic and ECOWAS sanctions, UNICEF has encountered difficulties in ensuring continuity in the supply chain of its materials. Significant delivery delays, particularly from China, have reduced the number of notebooks and school bags available.

By the end of 2022, 1,571 schools were closed due to insecurity, affecting more than 470,000 students. Throughout the year, the number of schools closed changed almost weekly, due to a very volatile security situation. For reference, in 2020, the number of closed schools was estimated at 1,344, rising to 1,664 in 2021, with a peak in 2022 of 1,766. Thanks to the efforts of UNICEF and its partners, 206 schools were reopened in 2022 through the organization of consultation and mobilization frameworks and support to volunteer teachers.

UNICEF has continued to strengthen the utilization of distance education tools, through the broadcasting of radio education courses, distributed throughout the country through more than 75 community radios.

Important work has also been done, under the coordination of the Ministry of Education, to improve the Malian curriculum and in partnership with the Proman company, through an inventory of digital resources adapted to the country's context and an emphasis on the theme of peace education. Each of these pedagogical resources is submitted to the Government for approval, and then integrated into the digital platform. This process will continue in 2023. The commitment of the Ministry of Education to these activities has been welcomed by all partners and has resulted in the creation of a

management and coordination committee for distance education, bringing together several national directorates and fifteen members. The committee has a key role in coordinating and guiding all activities related to distance education and is responsible for the validation of the resources and approaches to be used.

In the context of insecurity, the flexibility of funds and approaches appeared to be important and useful to adapt UNICEF response and targeting. In this regard, UNICEF has been able to provide a rapid response to forced displacements in Menaka and Bankass, while waiting for additional emergency funds. Flexible funds also made it possible to support the region of Sikasso in reopening schools closed due to insecurity through the support of consultation frameworks and volunteer teachers.

UNICEF will continue to work with a nexus approach combining rapid response and activities addressing roots causes of the crisis and supporting structural issues (infrastructures, teachers, system strengthening...). For example, displaced children who have been in temporary learning centres have finally been able to integrate the classic (basic) curriculum in schools near the displaced sites.

As cluster lead agency, UNICEF contributed to strengthening the coordination, including the support to the Joint Education Needs Assessment and to the Multisectoral Needs Assessments led by OCHA. These two assessments allowed to build the capacity of partners, including National and International NGOs and United Nations agencies (JENA). For the first time, the ministry's executives participated in a joint needs assessment (JENA). - The assessment presented the results of the assessment by region (JENA and MSNA) and by population type (MSNA). - The results of these assessments contributed to the 2022 humanitarian planning. These two assessments allowed us to highlight the main areas of need in terms of education, the priority areas, and the need for responses by region. The Cluster Evaluation (CCPM) revealed that the performance of all core functions was rated as good or satisfactory. In 2022, the sub regional Education in Emergencies working groups were supported and their functionality has been improved. A new Education in Emergencies Working Group was created as well in Sikasso. In addition, the Cluster has advocated for the integration of the achievements of emergency actors in the performance report of the education system in Mali. As a result of a joint effort between the Ministry's planning unit and the Cluster's coordination, a first annual performance report of the education system that integrated the achievements of emergency education in Mali was produced. The Cluster in collaboration with OCHA and other structures representing people with disabilities has produced an advocacy note for the strengthening of humanitarian interventions in favour of a more inclusive education for children living with disabilities, especially girls in Mali.

The emergency response was hampered by the limited humanitarian access and the dangers faced by partners in several localities of the country because of increased security tensions. In the meantime, the funding received this year did not cover the priority needs. Advocacy is underway to ensure that the education sector is better covered by 2023, otherwise a generation of children will be denied their right to education.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)^{5,6}



A water pump being built in the village of Dialangou, Mali. Before the construction of the borehole, villagers had no access to clean water within the village.

Over the course of 2022, with about 55 per cent funding, UNICEF and its partners reached 121,888 (including 65,515 children) conflict-affected people in the central and northern regions with short terms emergency WASH assistance, through the distribution of hygiene kits consisting of water treatment and storage products as well as water distribution through water trucking. These interventions covered the regions of Kayes, Sikasso, Koulikoro, Bamako, Segou, Mopti, Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal, and Menaka.

Furthermore, UNICEF enabled a sustained access to safe drinking water to 235,022 people (including 133,551 children) throughout the country

The annual target for water access was 482,000 and UNICEF reached 235,022 people (48.7 per cent of the target), while the annual target for WASH kit distribution was 390,000 people, compared to 121,888 reached (31 per cent of the target). These gaps are mainly due to a lack of funding (the funding gap in 2022 was \$8.7 million, or almost 45 per cent of the total financial needs), which impacts on the capacity of partners to deliver life-saving interventions and link structural WASH responses to meet the needs of populations and longer-term sustainable approaches. It has also meant that it has not been possible to provide the necessary support to schools and health centres through the delivery of minimum WASH packages.

To improve the impact of WASH activities on the ground, and building on lessons learned in recent years, UNICEF, in collaboration with the government, has put in place a system of coordination of partners at the local level.

In terms of governance, coordination and capacity building, the intersectoral consultation and coordination frameworks (WASH, Nutrition, Health, Education) enabled a harmonization of approaches and the minimization of risks of (e.g. choice of sites).

Awareness raising, stakeholder involvement and capacity building by construction companies at the same time as WASH projects were being carried out facilitated ownership of WASH services and behaviour change in the use and maintenance of WASH infrastructure.

It also appears that practical training of water point management committee members on concrete cases with WASH construction companies seems to be more beneficial than classroom training sessions.

Finally, the good collaboration between regional technical services (DRH, DRACPN, DRS, Directions régionales des marchés publics) and the Governor has allowed for better coordination of the recruitment of local companies and the implementation of WASH activities in the regions. This good experience has accelerated the achievement of the 2022 work plan results.

The different crises that Mali has had to face in recent years have also highlighted the need to develop risk-informed systems that can effectively anticipate and respond to shocks and stressors, not only the personal shocks experienced during the child's life cycle, but also the impact of climate change, displacement and conflict.

WASH interventions at the community level, in addition to addressing priority needs, contribute to building resilience and social cohesion. The members of the WASH management committees who have been trained are half women. Their participation is essential to ensure that the decisions taken represent the whole community and meet the specific expectations of women who are the main users of these water points. Reducing distances and making easier water collection are measures that offer comfort and, above all, better protection to the children and women who are assigned to these tasks.

In its efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change in Mali, UNICEF funded a training workshop in July for 35 members of the WASH Cluster from all regions of Mali on solar water pumping. Solar water pumping is useful in the objectives of the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and groundwater pollution, but also saves water through demand-responsive pumping and distribution methods. The second edition of this training, which was already organised in 2021, aimed at strengthening the capacities of the Cluster members in order to integrate the new tools and skills acquired into their daily programming and practices in the field.

Finally, UNICEF, as the WASH cluster lead agency, mobilized all the actors to ensure a coordinated response. A total of 68 actors reported WASH interventions that benefiting 939,943 people (including 339,775 children) affected by the various humanitarian crises in Mali, of whom 597,932 had access to sustainable access to safe drinking water and 262,740 for temporary water access.

In 2022, the Cluster conducted an MSNA (Multi Sector Needs Assessment) survey to update humanitarian needs. This study revealed the following:

(1) In terms of sanitation, 42 per cent of households nationwide use unimproved latrines or practice open defecation. Open defecation is most common in Kidal (11 per cent), Menaka (10 per cent), Gao and Timbuktu (9 per cent) and Kayes (8 per cent). More than 75 per cent of those who use latrines say they face difficulties related, for 45 per cent of them, to the non-separation of latrines between men and women.

(2) In terms of hygiene, only 34 per cent of households have a handwashing facility (the kettle for 58 per cent of households) with soap and water in their home, and 36 per cent have no facility with soap and/or water. This rate is higher in Sikasso (53 per cent), Kayes (52 per cent) and Kidal (49 per cent). Finally, around 16 per cent of households nationally use an unimproved water source as their main source of drinking water, particularly in Ségou (19 per cent), Koulikoro (26 per cent) and Sikasso (27 per cent). Also, in Kidal (23 per cent) and Ménaka (20 per cent), households take more than 30 minutes to collect water. Finally, the main difficulties related to access to water are the lack of storage containers, the scarcity of water sources leading to long waits, the poor quality of water and the long distances to reach a source.

Overall, even if the analysis of the indicators reveals a slight improvement compared to 2021, the results still indicate the

persistent deterioration of WASH services (with strong regional disparities) due to the insufficient lack of technical state entities, persistent insecurity causing massive population displacements and limited humanitarian access.

Social Protection

In 2022, the security and political context, combined with economic sanctions, regional food insecurity and the war in Ukraine, led to a weaker-than-expected economic recovery. According to the World Bank, the national poverty rate is estimated to have risen from 42.5 per cent in 2019 to 44.4 per cent in 2021, pushing an additional 375,000 people into extreme poverty in 2022, with a total of 8,803,606 people.

UNICEF Mali, in collaboration with the Government, conducted cash transfer operations using the national social protection systems to assist households particularly affected by the economic consequences of COVID-19.

In 2022, UNICEF provided US\$2 million in cash transfers to 29,927 vulnerable households and 6,067 women's savings groups, including more than 24,858 households with children under five years of age as part of malnutrition prevention. In addition to these distributions, 6,067 women's savings groups also benefited from these transfers. Finally, to address the multifaceted risks of child malnutrition, UNICEF has provided cash transfers to 14,500 children and 2,000 pregnant women in three northern regions (Gao, Timbuktu and Mopti).

These distributions were carried out through the national social protection system under the leadership of the National Directorate of Social Protection and Solidarity Economy (DNPSES) and the "Jigisemejiri" social safety net programme in collaboration with financial service providers (FSPs) selected by the Government with technical support from UNICEF.

Due to the scale of the needs caused by the multidimensional humanitarian crises in Mali, significant development and programming challenges remained, notably the tense security situation in the centre and north of the country, which limits humanitarian access for workers and degrades economic and telecommunication infrastructures, resulting in temporary suspensions of cash transfers. UNICEF has been forced to readjust its operations and timetable of activities several times, but also to resort to local structures to best preserve the continuity of actions.

In addition, the impact of ECOWAS sanctions and the consequences of the crisis in Ukraine have contributed to the increase of prices on local markets, impacting the economy of the most vulnerable people. A readjustment of the amount had to be made to adapt to this new reality, with transfers initially thought to be 16 USD and readjusted to 32 USD.

UNICEF launched at the end of 2022 third party monitoring surveys through two national NGOs to ensure the efficiency of payments to beneficiaries and to analyse bottlenecks and challenges related to the implementation of these cash transfer operations in this crisis context. In addition, UNICEF and DNPSES conducted joint monitoring missions of these cash transfer activities in the regions of Ségou, Koulikoro and Sikasso to ensure the efficiency of the activities and the specificity of the payments.

Based on the achievements in 2022, several lessons were learned and will be capitalized to optimise the response in 2023. First, the multiplicity and protracted nature of Mali's overlapping shocks and crises have re-emphasised the crucial role of routine social protection and safety net programmes that operate at scale, which is a prerequisite for an effective response to the shocks we will continue to support in 2023.

An enhanced dialogue with the Government of Mali on the use of the universal targeting approach and the implications for building capacity to respond to shocks during Social Protection Week launched discussions on sustainable national financing for shock-sensitive social protection in the country. Cash transfers coupled with nutrition interventions have allowed for the scaling up of multisectoral and community-based approaches through Nutritional Support Groups (NSGs) and multisectoral nutrition coordination platforms in the regions of Mopti, Timbuktu and Bandiagara, which has contributed to the continued reduction of chronic malnutrition. Finally, an expansion and strengthening of social protection was introduced in 2022 for a more inclusive response. Specifically, Mali's information systems, including the social register, have been extended to the North region (covering vulnerable groups) and to include displaced people in UNICEF's area of operations (Segou, Sikasso and Koulikoro regions).

Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)



A 12-year-old boy is sensitizing adults about the importance of school. "I am the voice of children of this school and I will do my best to be sure our concerns are taken in consideration."

In 2022, UNICEF supported the Government of Mali in strengthening risk communication and community engagement for Covid-19 vaccination promotion and compliance. Over 746,367 people have been engaged in immunisation promotion activities since January 2022 and 215,304 community feedbacks and concerns have been received and addressed on Covid-19 and immunisation.

At the same time, an estimated 14,1 million people (including 7,1 million women) were reached with information and messages shared by UNICEF and its partners through radio campaigns.

Overall, the communication for social behaviour change (SBC for action) approach has permitted to couple all the social mobilisation and community engagement activities (advocacy sessions, animation sessions, awareness raising, community dialogues, home visits, thematic preaching) with the provision of immunisation services. These activities are coordinated at the local level by members of the crisis and disaster management committees. In addition, 180 community radio stations have contributed to the dissemination of messages and the organisation of thematic programmes on COVID-19.

In addition to the participation of adolescents and young people on issues of peace and social cohesion, 4,000 other child ambassadors, including 1,000 adolescents and young people, were trained in interpersonal communication and advocacy techniques for the mass return of children to school and in prevention and protection against COVID-19.

The ambassadors were able to make more than 156,000 home visits in 150 communes and more than 300 radio broadcasts to encourage parents to send their children to school.

Women have not been left out of the social behaviour change projects. Indeed, 4,500 Mama Yeleen (women with a strong voice in the communities) carried out throughout the year the promotion of essential family practices, in addition to the prevention of VCT-19 and awareness-raising activities for social cohesion. These activities, carried out in 45 districts, reached 1,170,349 people, including 707,608 women.

Within the framework of resilience and youth participation, UNICEF has supported the training of more than 11,800 young people and adolescents (50 per cent of whom are girls) in conflict prevention techniques and is conducting community-based conflict prevention interventions in nine regions of Mali. These resilience projects have had a positive impact on the community, as evidenced by the more than 1,200 home visits by young people to raise awareness of social cohesion, reaching an estimated 20,000 people.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

Humanitarian action coordination is led by the Ministry of Health and Social Development, the ministry in charge of Humanitarian Affairs with the support of the Humanitarian Country Team. UNICEF is leading three clusters, WASH, Nutrition and Education and the Child Protection Sub-Cluster (Area of Responsibility) and in this capacity UNICEF has continued to effectively support and participate in the HPC process in Mali. 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.

The UNICEF Humanitarian strategy is aligned with the Core Commitments for Children and with the 2022 inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) which aims to save lives and protect affected populations. UNICEF continues to address urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations in crisis-affected in northern and central regions of the country, while strengthening the linkages between humanitarian action and development programming and prioritizing community-based approaches.

The UNICEF office in Mali has been selected and organized the ceremony of the virtual launch of the HAC Global. The purpose of the 2023 Humanitarian Action for Children Virtual Event was to raise the urgency of meeting children and young people's humanitarian needs by mobilizing public and private partners around humanitarian action and confirming/increasing their support in 2023.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

In 2022, UNICEF Mali expanded its share of voice on online and social media, with brand mentions on key child rights themes during the year, including humanitarian advocacy, education and nutrition. These results indicate that the advocacy strategies and plans UNICEF developed and implemented around humanitarian and education/learning crisis themes have been successful in increasing reach with digital audiences, including through effective media engagement approaches.

UNICEF advocacy with the Ministry for the promotion of women, children and families has led to events and public awareness activities being more child friendly, more environmentally friendly and child rights messages being integrated into speeches. World

children's Day is a good example of UNICEF continued advocacy with government through the children's department on child rights, together with child protection. Partnership with the Ministry also led to the renewal of the Children Parliament, including representative living in humanitarian crises affected regions.

The L2 brought additional technical support and UNICEF now has a strong foundation to continually build humanitarian advocacy and support key global activities. Virtual field visits, videos and the HAC launch, hosted from the UNICEF Bamako warehouse, have contributed to increased visibility for Mali globally in support of our advocacy and fundraising efforts for children in humanitarian settings.

- International day of zero tolerance of female genital mutilation https://twitter.com/unicefmali/status/1622276805775314945?s=20&t=_W0TYZOqBMFW401jAOriJw



























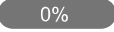



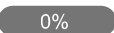

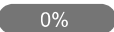













HAC APPEALS AND SITREPS

- Mali Appeals <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/mali>
- Mali Situation Reports <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/mali/situation-reports>
- All Humanitarian Action for Children Appeals <https://www.unicef.org/appeals>
- All Situation Reports <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/situation-reports>

NEXT SITREP: 28 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNEX A SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2022 targets	Total results	Progress	2022 targets	Total results	Progress
Nutrition								
Children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	Total	-	197,671	165,648	▲ 2%	197,671	165,648	▲ 2%
	Girls	-	197,671	89,450	▲ 1%	197,671	89,450	▲ 1%
	Boys	-	197,671	76,198	▲ 1%	197,671	76,198	▲ 1%
Primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	492,527	629,117	▲ 51%	509,617	720,040	▲ 45%
	Women	-	492,527	479,428	▲ 33%	509,617	540,030	▲ 25%
	Men	-	492,527	149,689	▲ 18%	509,617	180,010	▲ 19%
Health								
Children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles	Total	-	200,000	617,123	▲ 115%	-	-	-
Children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against polio	Total	-	352,064	-	0%	-	-	-
Water, sanitation and hygiene								
People accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	1.6 million	482,000	235,022	▲ 1%	1.2 million	597,932	▲ 2%
	Girls	1.6 million	482,000	65,397	0%	1.2 million	173,395	▲ 1%
	Boys	1.6 million	482,000	68,154	0%	1.2 million	166,380	▲ 1%
	Women	1.6 million	482,000	51,702	0%	1.2 million	131,538	▲ 1%
	Men	1.6 million	482,000	49,769	0%	1.2 million	126,619	▲ 1%
People use safe and appropriate sanitation facilities	Total	2.2 million	50,000	15,777	▲ 5%	100,000	79,271	▲ 7%
	Women	2.2 million	50,000	7,861	▲ 3%	100,000	40,427	▲ 3%
	Men	2.2 million	50,000	7,916	▲ 3%	100,000	38,844	▲ 3%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	3.6 million	390,000	121,888	▲ 1%	814,000	262,740	▲ 1%
	Women	3.6 million	390,000	60,730	0%	814,000	133,992	▲ 1%
	Men	3.6 million	390,000	61,158	0%	814,000	128,748	▲ 1%
Child Protection, GBVIE and PSEA								
Children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	372,733	97,689	▲ 4%	1 million	121,953	▲ 2%

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2022 targets	Total results	Progress	2022 targets	Total results	Progress
	Girls	-	372,733	48,064		1 million	60,795	
	Boys	-	372,733	49,625		1 million	61,158	
People who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers	Total	-	124,000	71,053		-	-	
	Girls	-	124,000	20,040		-	-	
	Boys	-	124,000	19,243		-	-	
	Women	-	124,000	15,320		-	-	
	Men	-	124,000	16,450		-	-	
Children who have exited armed forces and groups provided with protection or reintegration support	Total	-	700	529		1,000	692	
	Girls	-	700	84		1,000	165	
	Boys	-	700	445		1,000	527	
Unaccompanied and separated children accessing family-based care or a suitable alternative	Total	-	1,200	2,230		1,500	2,436	
	Girls	-	1,200	767		1,500	805	
	Boys	-	1,200	1,463		1,500	1,631	
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	40,400	26,462		-	-	
	Girls	-	40,400	9,179		-	-	
	Boys	-	40,400	8,949		-	-	
	Women	-	40,400	8,334		-	-	
Education								
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	155,000	64,515		197,946	90,897	
	Girls	-	155,000	34,540		197,946	47,435	
	Boys	-	155,000	29,975		197,946	43,462	
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	430,000	121,512		1.1 million	197,159	
	Girls	-	430,000	61,341		1.1 million	99,591	
	Boys	-	430,000	60,171		1.1 million	97,568	

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2022 targets	Total results	Progress	2022 targets	Total results	Progress
Schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	Total	-	2,500	4,397	▲ 162%	5,000	4,399	▲ 77%
Social Protection								
Households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and/or funding	Total	-	30,000	48,338	▲ 56%	-	-	-
Households benefitting from new or additional social transfers from governments with UNICEF technical assistance support	Total	-	150,000	79,500	0%	-	-	-
Households reached with UNICEF funded multi-purpose humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	25,000	13,665	0%	-	-	-
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)								
People engaged in risk communication and community engagement actions	Total	-	800,000	746,367	0%	-	-	-
People with access to established accountability mechanisms	Total	-	250,000	215,304	0%	-	-	-

ANNEX B FUNDING STATUS

Sector	Requirements	Funding available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Resources available from 2021 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Nutrition	27,544,695	22,374,521	3,127,581	2,042,593	7%
Health	10,432,800	1,880,384	435,338	8,117,078	78%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	19,200,598	6,493,467	3,984,207	8,722,924	45%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	22,884,613	4,714,676	3,667,162	14,502,775	63%
Education	20,168,798	3,839,525	1,774,697	14,554,576	72%
Social protection	22,880,121	44,724	12,226,682	10,608,715	46%
Emergency preparedness	2,256,737	2,142,176	287,267	-172,706	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)	2,381,400	924,406	500,000	956,994	40%
Total	127,749,762	42,413,879	26,002,934	59,332,949	46%

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ENDNOTES

1. Matrice de Suivi des Deplacements (DTM) - Decembre 2022

2. UNICEF Mali expresses sincere gratitude to all public and private donors who have generously contributed to the humanitarian response in 2022: the Governments of Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, as well as Education Cannot Wait, the European Commission, the Global Vaccine Alliance GAVI, and UNOCHA/CERF; the UNICEF National Committees of Germany, Norway and Spain, and UNICEF China.

3. UNICEF needs adequate levels of funding to meet the identified urgent needs of children, and the funding gaps limited UNICEF's reach and scale. In particular, greater levels of flexible (unearmarked) funding are needed to ensure that humanitarian aid can be delivered to maximise impact for children, and support a faster, more agile and cost-effective response. Funding received earlier in the year, and more quickly, also allows UNICEF to plan and deliver more effectively.

4. UNICEF' partners in Child Protection area are : AVS, ATDED, COOPI, IMC, DRC, GARDL, SOLISA, EDUCO, POD, Kanuya, SamuSocial and DRPFEE Gao.

5. UNICEF's partners in WASH are : Regional Directorates of Hydraulic, Regional Directorates of Social Development and Solidarity Economy, Regional Directorates of Civil Protection, Regional Directorates of Health and NGOs including NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council), IRC (International Rescue Committee), IMADEL (Initiative Malienne d'Appui au Développement local), GARDL, Solidarités Internationale (SI), ALPHALOG (Association Libre pour la Promotion de l'Habitat et du Logement), ARDIL (Action Recherches pour le Développement des Initiatives Locales), CARD (Carrefour Développement).

6. WASH Cluster actors include 19 international NGOs (ACF-E, ACTED, AEN, CECI, CRS, DEDI, HELP, IEDA Relief, IR Mali, IRC, Mercy Corps, MSF-E, NRC, OXFAM, PUI, SCI, SI, WHH and WVI), 22 national NGOs (Action Mopti, ALPHALOG, ASG, ASM, ASSADDEC, CAEB, CAMR, Caritas Bamako, Caritas Mopti, CRADE, FAABA, GARDL, GARI, GCM, G-FORCE, Gouna Tiere, IMADEL, OMAES, ONG Guamina, SOLISA, Stop Sahel and TASSAGHT), 26 government technical services (AE Sikasso, DRACPN Gao, DRACPN Kayes, DRACPN Ménaka, DRACPN Mopti, DRDSES Kayes, DRDSES Kidal, DRDSES Ségou, DRDSES Tombouctou, DRH Gao, DRH Kayes, DRH Kidal, DRH Ménaka, DRH Mopti, DRH Ségou, DRH Sikasso, DRH Taoudénit, DRH Tombouctou, DRPC Gao, DRPC Mopti, DRPC Ségou, DRPC Sikasso, DRS Koulikoro, DRS Mopti, DRS Taoudénit and Gouvernorat Kayes), and the ICRC.