



UNICEF/Cameroon/2023/Depighi Frank

Agwa Bendexter, a 9-year-old boy, attends classes outdoors in the village of Small Ikange, in the South-West region of Cameroon. Agwa aspires to become a construction worker.

unicef 
for every child

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 2

Reporting Period
1 January to 30 June
2023

Cameroon

HIGHLIGHTS

- During the first half of 2023, Cameroon's humanitarian needs have escalated due to conflicts, refugee crises, natural hazards, and disease outbreaks, affecting an estimated 3.9 million people (including 2.1 million children), leading to widespread displacement, acute food insecurity, strained healthcare systems, and other complexities.
- UNICEF's response has been comprehensive and robust, including the treatment of 37,601 severely wasted children, and cholera (inoculating over 1.5 million individuals), the provision of WASH services to over 67,969 persons, and progress in education reforms, reaching over 100,000 children. In the Child Protection sector, 19,055 children, parents, and caregivers received mental health and psychosocial support, gender-based violence prevention reached 73,198 people, and 16,386 birth certificates were issued.
- Critical challenges persist, including a significant 94 per cent funding gap for UNICEF's 2023 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal, which threatens essential services for 870,000 people.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS



2,100,000
Children in need of humanitarian assistance¹









3,900,000
People in need of humanitarian assistance²

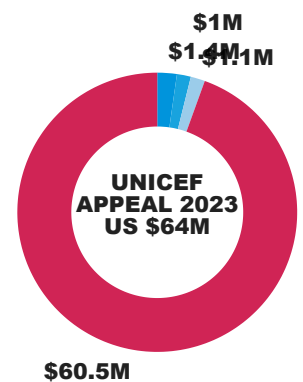


2,189,845
Forcely displaced persons³

UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*

	Nutrition	SAM	58%			
		Funding status	1%			
	Water, sanitation and hygiene	drinking water	7%			
		Funding status	6%			
	Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA	MHPSS	6%			
		Funding status	3%			
	Education	access to education	21%			
		Funding status	1%			
	Social protection	HCT	0%			
		Funding status	0%			
	Health and HIV/AIDS	measles	23%			
		Funding status	0%			

FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



● Humanitarian Resources
● Other Resources
● Funding gap
● 2022 carry over

** 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.

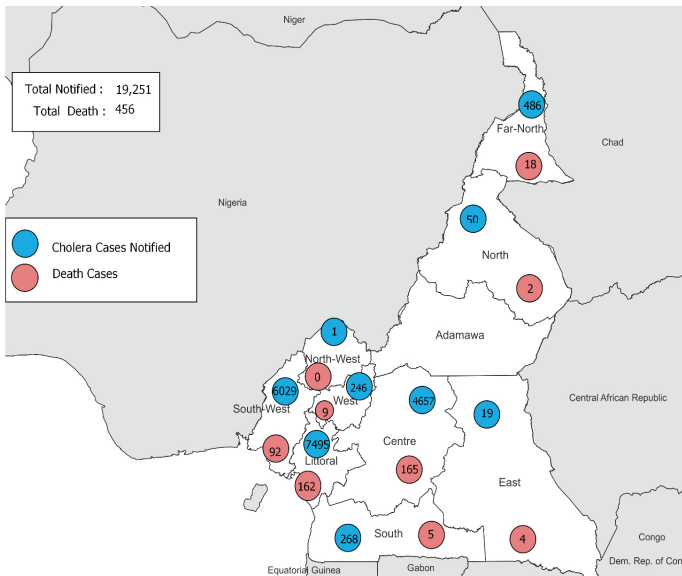
FUNDING OVERVIEW AND PARTNERSHIPS

Despite the persistent humanitarian needs in Cameroon, UNICEF's Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for 2023 remains critically underfunded. Against a total requirement of US\$ 64 million, only a small fraction of US\$ 1.44 million has been received in humanitarian resources, leaving a staggering funding gap of 94 per cent. The funding gaps are particularly acute in several critical sectors. Education, Nutrition, Health and HIV/AIDS, and Social Protection are nearly completely unfunded with a funding gap close to or reaching 100 per cent. Child protection (including the protection from gender-based violence in emergencies and from sexual exploitation and abuse) faces a gap of 94 per cent, while Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) is facing a gap 89 per cent.

Without timely and sufficient funding, UNICEF in Cameroon will be unable to scale up its response to the needs of affected populations, including those in hard-to-reach, insecure areas. The ongoing funding shortfall threatens to deprive 870,000 people, including 670,000 children (64,400 children with severe wasting, 95,205 children in need of vaccination against measles and 478,800 children in need of education) of essential support and services, hindering the national response to continuing crises.

UNICEF in Cameroon expresses its sincere gratitude to the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) for the contributions received so far and urges renewed commitment from other donors to closing the funding gap as the year progresses. UNICEF Cameroon received Global Humanitarian Thematic funding as well and thanks the donors contributing to this flexible funding. In 2023 The Government of Japan, the German Development Bank (KfW), the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), the United States Government, and United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) through Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) generously supported UNICEF's response.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS



Cholera Reports June 2023

Cameroon is ensnared in a web of multi-faceted humanitarian challenges. The repercussions of the Lake Chad Basin conflict, the ongoing strife in the North-West and South-West regions, the Central African Republic (CAR) refugee crisis, and natural hazards are compounded by the recent outbreaks of diseases, notably cholera

and Mpox. These crises collectively affect an estimated 3.9 million people across the country in 2023, including 2.1 million children. In light of these staggering numbers, the Humanitarian Response Plan for 2023 aims to provide aid to 2.6 million of the most vulnerable.

Communities in affected regions endure the brunt of conflict and violence. Every month, civilians face an alarming rate of deaths, injuries, kidnappings, and threats. The escalating use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), though primarily targeting State Security Forces (SSFs), also poses a grave risk to civilians. Compounding this situation is the frequent pendular displacement, where affected individuals move back and forth from areas of perceived safety due to the volatile security situation.

In the North-West and South-West regions, the ongoing humanitarian crisis has displaced over 630,000 individuals within Cameroon and forced over 86,000 to seek refuge in Nigeria. The populations in these regions find themselves caught in the crossfire between State security forces and non-State armed groups. Recent clashes have led to significant civilian casualties, displacements, and widespread destruction of property. In June 2023, the Mezam division witnessed significant clashes between SSFs and Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs), resulting in over 26 deaths and the displacement of more than 1,000 individuals. These civilians, along with countless others, often face dire conditions and are in desperate need of humanitarian assistance. Despite the valiant efforts of humanitarian workers, needs frequently outstrip available resources and access.

In the Far North region, the lingering effects of the Lake Chad basin conflict coupled with natural hazards continue to drive humanitarian needs. Armed conflict and episodic violence have resulted in massive displacements both within the region and into neighbouring Nigeria. The crisis, compounded by flooding, has led to an uptick in humanitarian needs, a 33% increase compared to 2022. Insecurity remains the most significant driver of needs in the area, with the Mayo-Sava, Mayo-Tsanaga, and Logone et Chari divisions being most affected. This insecurity, combined with natural hazards, has displaced over 10,000 people in the Far North region between January and May 2023. Additionally, the region is grappling with food insecurity. An alarming 2.3 million people are expected to face acute food insecurity from June to August 2023, a situation exacerbated by the impacts of global economic downturns, local floods, and the Russian-Ukrainian conflict.

Cholera and Mpox epidemics have emerged as significant health threats, especially in the Far North, South-West, North-West, and Littoral regions. Lack of access to clean water, sanitation and health services is the leading cause of cholera and other diseases in Cameroon. As of June 30, 2023, there have been 19,251 notified cases of cholera resulting in 457 deaths. Additionally, confirmed cases of Mpox were reported starting in October 2022, with an average national case fatality rate of 3.2 per cent. By May 2023, 33 suspected cases emerged in the Mbonge and Kumba health districts in the South-West region. These outbreaks underscore the dire need for increased medical assistance and preventive measures.

The health sector has been particularly strained by the crises. Many regions of Cameroon, most notably the North-West and South-West, have seen a collapse or significant strain in essential services and infrastructure. With nearly one-fifth of health facilities forced to close, many in crisis-affected areas find it challenging to access healthcare. Mobile clinics have attempted to bridge this gap, offering essential health services to remote areas and hard-to-reach communities. These clinics have been instrumental in addressing outbreaks and providing crucial medical services, yet they remain under-resourced and face immense challenges, including attacks on personnel and infrastructure. The recent disease outbreaks have further exacerbated an already stretched healthcare system, and the

frequent attacks on medical personnel and facilities have made effective healthcare delivery even more challenging.

Amidst these challenges, humanitarian actors continue to provide essential services, striving to meet the diverse and growing needs of affected populations. Yet, challenges in accessing certain regions due to security concerns, poor infrastructure, and bureaucratic hurdles often limit the scope and efficiency of these interventions.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

Nutrition



After a cooking demonstration children receive a nutritious meal at the Gado Badzere site, in Garoua-Boulai, in the east of Cameroon.

The ongoing violence and disruption caused by non-state armed groups have resulted in large-scale displacement, putting countless women and children at risk of malnutrition. A heightened need for nutrition services is evident, especially among the vulnerable groups, which include internally displaced individuals and refugees from Central African and Nigeria.

To address this, UNICEF, in collaboration with its partners, actively delivered both treatment and preventive measures to combat malnutrition among children and women. The initiatives focused on enhancing service delivery at healthcare centers and within communities. In total, 37,601 children who were severely wasted received specialized care through UNICEF-supported outpatient therapeutic programs and dedicated medical facilities. This group incorporated 2,314 internally displaced children and 1,243 refugee children from Central Africa and Nigeria. For preventive measures, 43,489 toddlers between the ages of 6 to 23 months were given micronutrient powders to boost the nutritional value of their foods. Additionally, initiatives such as home visits and cooking demonstrations were organized to promote healthy feeding habits for infants. Furthermore, 32,290 expectant mothers were provided with iron and folic acid supplements during their prenatal care visits to ensure their well-being and that of their unborn children.

In the East region, over 200 women's association leaders and 33 community center directors were trained to counsel and support caregivers on proper breastfeeding and feeding practices for young children. Similarly, in the Far North, mentorship programs were established where 2,117 trained mothers played an instrumental role in setting up support groups across 697 villages. Additionally, to ensure consistent and quality services, nearly 1,200 health workers and community health workers received specialized training to enhance their skills.

With current resources covering only 55 per cent of the demand, the potential shortage of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) for the latter half of 2023 remains a significant concern. This shortage could significantly hamper the nutrition response efforts.

UNICEF has been at the forefront of coordinating nutrition efforts both nationally and regionally. At the national level, given the looming shortage of RUTF, UNICEF, along with other sector partners, embarked on aggressive resource mobilization campaigns. This included engaging with donors to highlight the urgency of the situation. In the Far North, sector partners came together for two joint analysis missions in May and June, which culminated in a robust flood response action plan. In the North-West and South-West regions, UNICEF mobilized cluster members to screen quarterly (March and June) large segments of the under-five children population for malnutrition, ensuring timely interventions where needed

Health and HIV/AIDS



Children are vaccinated in the village of Lassa, in the East of Cameroon. For every child, health

The healthcare landscape in Cameroon has encountered substantial challenges due to various factors. The detection of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in December 2022 and January 2023, particularly in the Far North region, as well as the 3 (cVDPV2) in Yaounde (centre Region) in June 2023 has heightened concerns and emphasized the vulnerability of thousands of children. Furthermore, the rapid spread of cholera, affecting 61 health districts across eight regions by mid-2023, and predominantly impacting the Centre region, underscores the immediate need for healthcare interventions. Additionally, natural disasters, such as the March 2023 floods in the South-West region, have added complexity to the existing health situation. These challenges highlight the importance of specialized health interventions, focusing on vulnerable populations such as children and women.

In response to the cVDPV2 threat, UNICEF promptly supported a targeted vaccination campaign in January 2023 for the Far North region, resulting in over 850,000 children receiving vaccinations. Two subsequent synchronized vaccination campaigns were carried out in May and June 2023, in collaboration with neighbouring Lake Chad Basin countries (Chad, Nigeria, and Niger), successfully vaccinating over 3.5 million children across several regions. With the potential threat of Marburg Virus Disease (MVD), UNICEF took proactive steps in contributing to national prevention strategies. By mid-2023, these measures were effective, with no reported cases of MVD.

To address the cholera crisis, UNICEF took decisive action by

supporting the establishment of cholera treatment centers in the affected regions. Alongside treatment, a far-reaching vaccination campaign was implemented, successfully inoculating over 1.5 million individuals against cholera. Plans are also underway to provide more than 1.8 million doses of oral Cholera Vaccine for a targeted campaign in Yaounde in August 2023.

In response to the devastating floods in March 2023, UNICEF conducted rapid assessments to understand the health implications, leading to the prompt procurement and distribution of essential health supplies to the affected regions.

Despite robust response efforts, challenges remain. The emergence of new cVDPV2 cases in the Centre region in June 2023 indicates the continuation of the epidemic. The cholera outbreak, especially in the Centre and Littoral regions, remains concerning due to its high fatality rate. Supply shortages present a significant constraint, hindering Cameroon's preparedness and response capabilities. With the humanitarian context continually evolving, there is an urgent need for sustained resource allocation, continuous monitoring, and a flexible response strategy. Addressing these gaps requires concerted effort, prioritizing essential supplies, enhancing healthcare providers' capacity, strengthening community health workforces, and ensuring successful vaccination campaigns.

Child protection, GBViE and PSEA



Children in Maroua, in the Far North of Cameroon. Peer educator sensitization.

The security situation in the Far North, North-West, and South-West regions of Cameroon remained volatile and unpredictable during the reporting period. A total of 203 incidents in the Far North and 738 in the North-West and South-West regions impacted children, illustrating the heightened vulnerability of thousands. The urgent need for targeted interventions for children and women, such as mental health support, gender-based violence prevention, and legal documentation, was accentuated by these challenges.

In response to these pressing needs, the Child Protection sector, led by UNICEF, prioritized engagement and capacity building of communities to deliver a comprehensive child protection package. In the North-West and South-West regions, 3,051 mothers, fathers, and caregivers were trained on positive parenting, and an additional 7,223 people were trained in the Far North region. Community engagement efforts reached 21,709 individuals to raise awareness on violence prevention, gender-based violence, and child marriage. Furthermore, 5,154 adolescents (3,017 girls) in the North-West and South-West regions received vocational training to empower them with practical skills. These initiatives have enabled 3,256

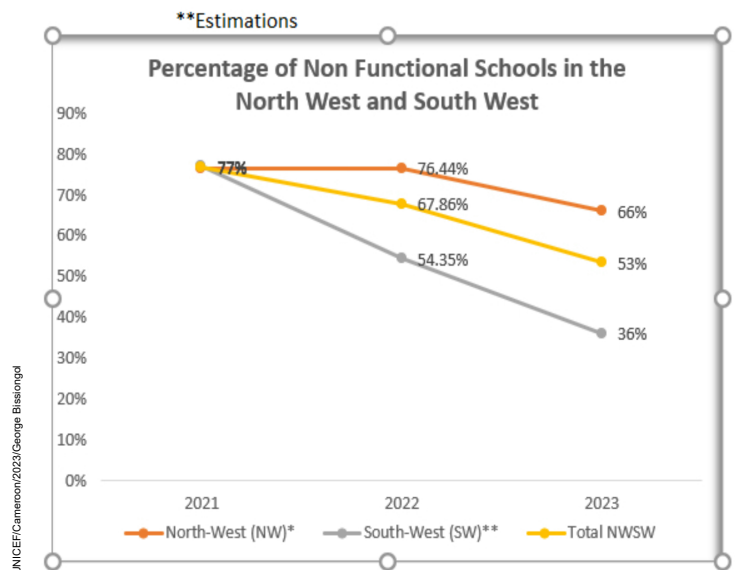
adolescents (1,893 girls) and 3,967 adults (2,115 women) to positively influence their peers in the communities, thereby ensuring the provision of better-quality services to children.

As a result of these efforts, a total of 19,055 children, parents, and caregivers received mental health and psychosocial support. Gender-based violence prevention interventions reached 73,198 people, and 109,048 individuals were provided with channels to report incidents safely. Additionally, 4,117 children received case management services, and 533 unaccompanied and separated children were provided with adequate care or reunification with families. Collaboration with civil registration services led to the issuance of 16,386 birth certificates. In response to floods and mudslides in Buea (South-West region), assistance was provided to approximately 150 displaced households, affecting around 900 individuals.

Despite robust efforts, the Child Protection sector faced several challenges. Insufficient funds hampered the full realization of intended targets, and natural disasters further complicated the situation. The continued emergence of security incidents, including the effects of heavy rainfall, created additional needs and challenges in response.

The achievements of the Child Protection sector were facilitated through the collaborative engagement of various partners, including government services and NGOs. The sector continues to advocate for additional resources and capacity building to enhance local response capabilities. This commitment is vital for strengthening the ongoing efforts to ensure the well-being and protection of children and vulnerable communities in these emergency situations.

Education



The education sector in Cameroon faces substantial challenges, particularly in the North-West and South-West regions, where only 2,569 out of 5,517 schools are currently functioning. The need for reform and targeted interventions is urgent, demanding a multifaceted response.

At the national level, UNICEF is making significant progress in reforming the education system. With the support of the Global Partnership for Education, the development of a Partnership Compact and the finalization of the National Education Strategy are underway, aimed at strengthening the resilience of the education system. The Multi-Year Resilience Programme has secured a seed grant of USD \$25 million, enabling the construction and rehabilitation of 110 classrooms, 55 water points, and 55 blocks of latrines.

Support has also been provided for the technical validation of the National Policy for Inclusive Education, acquisition of school materials, and identification of vulnerable children for targeted support.

Capacity building and training have been essential components of the response. UNICEF jointly organized high-level training on mainstreaming disability into humanitarian action, strengthening the capacity of 16 organizations in the Far North region. In the municipality of Lagdo, 122 teachers were trained in reading, writing, and numeracy didactics, resulting in improved learning outcomes for their pupils. In the East region, 48,366 school children benefited from Psychosocial Support and Conflict & Disaster Risk Reduction training provided to 288 teachers.

Community engagement and support for vulnerable children have further amplified the impact. A UNICEF-supported program targeting children in and out of school, reached 19,142 parents with key messages on education, particularly for girls, and successfully enrolled or re-enrolled 372 children into schools. In Lagdo, 505 pupils, including 240 girls, are benefiting from UNICEF-supplied Early Childhood Development kits.

In the North-West and South-West regions, the focus on safety and protection of schools has been paramount. Partners in the education sector have actively engaged in the preparation of the Joint Education Needs Assessment, identifying urgent needs and priorities. An orientation session on the Safe School Declaration was conducted, receiving technical support from the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attacks.

The comprehensive approach has reached wide-ranging beneficiaries. A total of 100,495 children, including 82,703 girls, benefited from educational opportunities, and 61,234 children, including 27,252 girls, received individual learning materials. Furthermore, 153,372 children, including 71,636 girls, accessed psychosocial support within their schools or learning programs.

Despite these achievements, challenges remain. The volatile security situation, especially in the North-West and South-West regions, continues to hinder progress. Funding shortages are also a barrier to fully meeting the intended targets, impacting thousands of children and obstructing essential education services.

Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)

Cash-based Programming

UNICEF supports the Cash Working Group, comprising Government institutions, UN agencies, and civil society organizations, with a specific focus on integrating Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) interventions into national social protection systems. In response to the government's request, UNICEF plays a major role in assisting the National Directorate and Civil Protection, in collaboration with the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI). UNICEF also continues supporting the development and use of a Unified Social Register of Cameroon (RESUC) and the delivery chain of social protection services and programs to ensure a more rapid and effective response.

[Social and Behavior change (SBC), Accountability to Affected Population, Localization]

UNICEF has been actively engaged in a multifaceted response to support the victims of flash floods and mudslides in Buea, Southwest region, while also focusing on broader initiatives in the areas of immunization, disease prevention, and community engagement.

In the aftermath of the natural disasters in Buea, UNICEF provided technical, material, and financial support to assist affected

communities, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable populations, including children and women. Special discussion meetings were convened in the three most affected localities (Bokwai, Bova, and Buea-Town), engaging 400 people to implement Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) activities. This approach aimed to foster effective community engagement and strengthen resilience. The identified needs include intensified communication on hygiene, cholera outbreak prevention, provision of psychosocial support, assistance to families who lost essential documents and school materials, and access to clean water and sanitation facilities. Collaborative efforts were made with two local NGO partners, Mboweh Women Development Association (MWDA) and Foundation For Inclusive Education Association (FIED), to enhance community engagement and resilience through the adoption of positive practices. Through their action more than 10,000 persons were reached with lifesavings messages on hygiene promotion and prevention of water-borne diseases.

As part of the polio outbreak response, a polio vaccination campaign was organized in Far-North, Nord, Adamawa and East region. Polio prevention messages broadcast by 22,713 mobilizers (10,727 men and 11,986 women) reached a total of 7,381,273 comprising of 3,485,914 men and 3,895,359 women. Out of the total number of people reached 114,651 were identified as special populations, amongst which 15,211 Nomadic, 8,588 natives, 56,856 refugees and 36,996 IDPs. 92% of these special populations were men.

In response to the Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) outbreak in Equatorial Guinea in February 2023, UNICEF provided timely support to the government in the prevention phase. An early deployment of community engagement staff to the South region, particularly in health districts bordering affected provinces in Equatorial Guinea (Olamze, Kye-Ossi, and Ambam), was instrumental in averting the threat in Cameroon. Various channels, including community health workers, community radios, and a toll-free number, were utilized to disseminate MVD prevention messages and collect community feedback. The inclusion of diverse community groups and collaboration with traditional and religious leaders at the local level has proven effective in achieving desired outcomes.

Water, sanitation and hygiene



Water points provided by UNICEF in the East region of Cameroon

During the first half of 2023, the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector in Cameroon faced significant challenges due to crises in the North-West, South-West, and Lake Chad Basin regions. The urgency for safe water supply, basic sanitation services, hygiene practices, and cholera prevention was accentuated by ongoing

humanitarian situations, including internal displacement, flash floods, and the cholera epidemic.

In response to these pressing needs, UNICEF embarked on a multifaceted approach to provide essential WASH services to the affected populations. Over 67,969 persons were reached with different interventions, particularly focusing on the most vulnerable, such as children, women, and internally displaced persons.

Access to safe water was a priority, with 7,548 people provided with safe water through the construction and rehabilitation of water points. In response to the flash flood in Buea town, clean water was supplied to 4,685 people, and maintenance and repair activities were undertaken in displaced sites in the Far North region. Additionally, schools in the municipalities of Garoua Boulai and Ngoura now provide basic water supply service to 3,460 pupils, including 1,460 girls.

Sanitation interventions resulted in 1,886 people gaining access to basic services through the construction and rehabilitation of latrines in schools and care facilities. A total of 4,944 pupils, including 2,222 girls, now have access to improved sanitation facilities in schools across Garoua Boulai and Ngoura.

Hygiene promotion and disease prevention were also central to the response. Awareness messages reached 38,902 people, and actions to promote good hygiene practices coupled with essential WASH supplies distribution reached 19,633 people. Over 25,000 people were educated on hygiene following the flash flood in Buea.

Aligned with the National Cholera Control Plan, support was provided to government partners and NGOs in response to the cholera epidemic in 15 affected health districts. This included a solar-powered water supply system installation in Yaoundé civil prison and the provision of 10,677 hygiene kits.

In the North-West and South-West regions, coordination activities were undertaken to harmonize designs and enhance the quality of response. Advocacy for more funding and increased human resources was also emphasized to better coordinate and improve joint advocacy efforts.

Despite these robust responses, challenges persist, particularly the need for more funding and human resources to ensure quality coordination. The diverse and complex needs across different regions require continuous monitoring, flexible strategies, and sustained commitment to improving WASH services.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

UNICEF's leadership in the humanitarian response continues to be a vital force in coordinating and strategizing interventions across several sectors, including Nutrition, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and Education. The organization also co-leads the Child Protection Area of Responsibility with Plan International, emphasizing the well-being of children and vulnerable populations.

UNICEF and other partners in the Nutrition sector have been actively engaged in resource mobilization efforts, leading to the issuance of an urgent advocacy presentation at a donor briefing meeting. The concerted efforts have enabled the conducting of two rounds of quarterly mass screenings for malnutrition in March and June 2023, reaching numerous children and women in need.

UNICEF is spearheading the coordination of the Education sector at national level, supporting ongoing work on the Country Sector Strategy. Various working groups and coordination mechanisms facilitate discussions and address ongoing challenges across

regions. For instance, the Education in Emergency Working Group in Bamenda plays a crucial role in the North-West region.

UNICEF's support extends to the development of resilient WASH infrastructures adapted to climate change. Collaboration with the Ministry of Water Resources and Energy and local actors, including municipalities and civil society organizations, has enhanced coordination and capacity building at various levels.

UNICEF's leadership of the Child Protection Area of Responsibility and coordination efforts in the North-West and South-West regions has led a dynamic change, with an increase in the 5W matrix reporting from 43 per cent in April to 57 per cent in May. UNICEF's dedication to child protection is evident, although the organization recognizes the need for dedicated staff at national and regional levels to enhance coordination and monitoring.

As the lead of the Localization Working Group, UNICEF Cameroon conducted two 2-day trainings in February 2023 for 60 members from 60 distinct local NGOs. Participants received training on various themes, including financial management, resource mobilization, humanitarian principles, and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. With over 500 applications, the demand underscores the need for continued capacity building initiatives, which UNICEF intends to support throughout the year. Furthermore, Cameroon has been selected as a pilot country for the global guidelines on institutional capacity strengthening. UNICEF Cameroon will work closely with UNICEF Headquarters in the second half of 2023 to implement these guidelines, further emphasizing the localization approach.

UNICEF's involvement extends to various intersectoral working groups, led by OCHA at national and sub-national levels. Actively participating in the preparation of the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for 2024, UNICEF continues to provide sectoral inputs, monitor response, and engage in multi-sectoral needs assessments.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA



Radio programmes help keep children learning in Cameroon

Since 2016, attacks on schools and abductions of teachers and students by non-state armed groups have led to the closure of many schools in the Northwest and Southwest of Cameroon. Currently, with 3,502 schools out of 6,515 schools closed in both regions due to insecurity, only 54% of students have access to formal education. To

address this, UNICEF has been supporting 60 rural communities in eleven divisions where schools are closed to implement a non-formal Radio Education Programme (REP). The REP is easily accessible in rural areas that have poor internet and cellular connectivity and is providing learning continuity while reducing the risk of attacks in communities who will not be targeted as they do not have formal schools.

A prototype of the REP was developed in 2016 and the programme began in 2021 with the development of a set of 72 literacy and numeracy scripts for children aged 6 to 10 years as well as a set of 72 literacy and numeracy scripts for children aged 11 to 17 years. To support children under 5 years, materials were developed for parents and caregivers focusing on early learning and development, and child protection. The content was recorded on USB/memory keys and transmitted through transistor radios at a time agreed with the parents. The 60 communities were also provided with 1,740 transistor solar radios, as well as USBs/memory cards with all lessons and key protection messages. Teachers in the community and some parents were trained to facilitate the transmitted lessons by organizing participating children into groups no larger than 25 and guiding them through the radio lessons. Teachers and parents were also trained in providing trauma-impacted children with mental health and psychosocial support.

RESULTS

- 54,894 out-of-school children (31,875 girls) were reached by the Radio Education Programme.
- Of the children who completed the Radio Education Programme, all 104 children who sat the Common Entrance examination in 2022, passed and are now attending secondary schools. One of the students was the top candidate in the 2021/2022 First School exam in the Northwest region.
- The capacities of 718 teachers and 272 parents were developed to provide mental health and psychosocial support and facilitate emotional well-being and care for children experiencing mental and emotional stress due to traumatic events.

LESSONS LEARNED

- When children demonstrate learning progress, communities and parents are encouraged to send their children to the learning spaces. Community leaders' and parents' testimonies highlighted their increased support for the programme as a result of children's learning and in particular, their success in the Common Entrance Examinations.
- The creation of a bridge between formal and non-formal education creates further support for the Radio in Education Programme: The programme package needs to allow for an easy transition of children to formal schools when they reopen in their communities, which further encourages parents' and children's ongoing support for the programme.
- Capacity building for parents and community members strengthens support for the programme. From the outset, parents expressed their interest in participating in the programme leading to the development of a training package in the local language on childcare and development and protection messages for parents and community members.
- Teachers' and parents' capacity building in psycho-social support enables support to trauma-impacted children. As a result of the training parents and teachers developed the skills needed to provide psycho-social support to trauma impacted children. This supports children's learning.

NEXT STEPS

- The training package will be adapted to include lessons by grade

level using the national curriculum to further facilitate the transition from non-formal to formal education. The lessons developed will be recorded on flash drives, memory cards, and other platforms, and will be distributed to the 60 communities.

- The programme will be expanded into more communities not currently covered. The programme will be further analyzed to identify the possibilities of using transistor radios to reach more out-of-school children.
- The programme will be used as a tool for further capacity building of teachers, with the development of training sessions focused on teaching methodology, child protection, conflict, and disaster risk reduction.
- UNICEF is in discussion with the Government of Cameroon on integrating the programme into support to formal schools and teacher training.

- Radio programmes help keep children learning in Cameroon <https://www.unicef.org/documents/learning-where-it-difficult-learn-radio-programmes-help-keep-children-learning-cameroon>

- Vacciner les enfants dans les chantiers miniers <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3z--XHw0KA>

- Les radios communautaires relais des bonnes pratiques pour le développement optimal des enfants <https://unicefcameroon.medium.com/les-radios-communautaires-relais-des-bonnes-pratiques-pour-le-d%C3%A9veloppement-optimal-des-enfants-27279b6a97bf>

- UNICEF's nutrition programme helps keep children alive and healthy in the East Region <https://unicefcameroon.medium.com/unicefs-nutrition-programme-helps-keep-children-alive-and-healthy-in-the-east-region-454e48f675be>

- CLEAN WATER, TOILETS AND GOOD HYGIENE BOOST SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND RETENTION IN OUNOUNOU. <https://medium.com/@unicefcameroon/clean-water-toilets-and-good-hygiene-boost-school-attendance-and-retention-in-ounsounou-ecfc4a159f71>

HAC APPEALS AND SITREPS

- Cameroon Appeals <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/cameroon>
- Cameroon Situation Reports <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/cameroon/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: 31 OCT 2023

ANNEX A - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Consolidated Programme Results

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Nutrition								
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	64,400	64,400 ^{4,5}	37,601 ⁶	▲ 58%	59,704 ⁷	37,601	▲ 63%
	Boys	-	8,9	17,437	-	10	17,437	-
	Girls	-	11,12	20,164	-	13	20,164	-
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	255,000	90,000	-	0%	106,500	46,306	▲ 43%
	Women	-	-	-	-	-	32,646	-
	Men	-	-	-	-	-	13,660	-
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	243,000	165,400 ¹⁴	43,489	▲ 26%	165,413	43,489	▲ 26%
Pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation	Total	245,000	157,000 ¹⁵	32,290	▲ 21%	196,996	32,290	▲ 16%
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	150,000	50,000 ¹⁶	-	0%	100,000	65,028	▲ 65%
	Boys	-	-	-	-	-	32,639	-
	Girls	-	-	-	-	-	32,389	-
Water, sanitation and hygiene								
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	1.3 million	110,000 ¹⁷	7,548	▲ 7%	1 million	66,647	▲ 6%
	Boys	-	-	1,976	-	-	17,207	-
	Girls	-	-	2,518	-	-	18,732	-
	Women	-	-	1,667	-	-	17,200	-
	Men	-	-	1,387	-	-	13,508	-
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	1.6 million	125,000	1,886	▲ 2%	505,510	16,343	▲ 3%
	Boys	-	-	885	-	-	5,419	-
	Girls	-	-	950	-	-	5,713	-
	Women	-	-	47	-	-	2,963	-
	Men	-	-	4	-	-	2,248	-

People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	1.7 million	600,000	38,902	▲ 6%	1 million	331,350	▲ 33%
	Boys	-	-	7,276	-	-	63,251	-
	Girls	-	-	8,287	-	-	79,381	-
	Women	-	-	14,182	-	-	108,643	-
	Men	-	-	9,157	-	-	80,075	-
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	1 million	245,000	19,633	▲ 8%	635,000	58,812	▲ 9%
	Boys	-	-	3,731	-	-	13,748	-
	Girls	-	-	4,367	-	-	16,642	-
	Women	-	-	7,004	-	-	16,837	-
	Men	-	-	4,531	-	-	11,585	-
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA								
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	341,000 ¹⁸	19,877	▲ 6%	516,970	30,441	▲ 6%
	Boys	-	-	7,860	-	-	12,929	-
	Girls	-	-	9,398	-	-	14,377	-
	Women	-	-	1,509	-	-	1,842	-
	Men	-	-	1,110	-	-	1,293	-
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	175,413 ¹⁹	50,767	▲ 29%	215,715	59,032	▲ 27%
	Boys	-	-	14,437	-	-	16,832	-
	Girls	-	-	17,041	-	-	20,024	-
	Women	-	-	19,289	-	-	22,176	-
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	731,000	54,057	▲ 7%	1.2 million	62,005	▲ 5%
	Boys	-	-	10,158	-	-	11,978	-
	Girls	-	-	11,854	-	-	13,584	-
	Women	-	-	17,199	-	-	19,540	-
	Men	-	-	14,846	-	-	16,903	-
Unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified	Total	-	8,500 ²⁰	551	▲ 6%	11,935	1,243	▲ 10%
	Boys	-	-	260	-	-	611	-

	Girls	-	-	291	-	-	632	-
Children who have exited armed forces and groups provided with protection or reintegration support	Total	-	-	44	-	-	97	-
	Boys	-	-	17	-	-	49	-
	Girls	-	-	27	-	-	48	-
Education								
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	478,800 ²¹	100,495	▲ 21%	644,000	272,413	▲ 42%
	Boys	-	-	43,735	-	-	132,049	-
	Girls	-	-	56,760	-	-	140,364	-
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	321,300	61,234	▲ 19%	1.1 million	67,580	▲ 6%
	Boys	-	22	33,982	-	-	36,914	-
	Girls	-	-	27,252	-	-	30,666	-
Children accessing mental health and psychosocial support in schools	Total	-	315,000	153,372	▲ 49%	1.1 million	311,975	▲ 27%
	Boys	-	-	81,736	-	-	165,275	-
	Girls	-	-	71,636	-	-	146,700	-
Social protection								
Households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF-technical assistance support	Total	-	1,100 ²³	-	0%	-	-	-
Households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	800	-	0%	-	-	-
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers through an existing government system	Total	-	2,000	-	0%	-	-	-
Health and HIV/AIDS								
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	190,400 ²⁴	43,021	▲ 23%	-	-	-
	Boys	-	-	26,014	-	-	-	-
	Girls	-	-	17,007	-	-	-	-
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	130,000 ^{26,27}	-	0%	-	-	-
Adolescent girls and boys tested for HIV and received the result of the last test	Total	-	91,300	2,208	▲ 2%	-	-	-
	Boys	-	-	481	-	-	-	-

	Girls	-	-	1,727	-	-	-	-
Households assisted with long lasting treated bed nets in humanitarian context	Total	-	89,600	-	0%	-	-	-
Pregnant women tested for HIV and AIDS	Total	-	8,700	12,709	▲ 146%	-	-	-
Children (0-12 months) who received Penta3 vaccine	Total	-	38,143	44,264	▲ 116%	-	-	-
	Boys	-	-	21,802	-	-	-	-
	Girls	-	-	22,462	-	-	-	-
Children aged under five with pneumonia treated at primary health care facilities and in communities with oral antibiotics	Total	-	12,764	-	0%	-	-	-
Children aged under five with acute watery diarrhoea who received treatment	Total	-	17,215	-	0%	-	-	-
# community health workers trained on integrated community case management	Total	-	490	-	0%	-	-	-
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)								
People sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms	Total	-	123,767	10,834	▲ 9%	-	-	-
People who participate in engagement actions for social and behavior change	Total	-	640,000	79,468	▲ 12%	-	-	-
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	3.2 million	7.4 million	▲ 231%	-	-	-

*Progress in the reporting period 1 January to 30 June 2023

ANNEX B — FUNDING STATUS

Consolidated funding by sector

Sector	Requirements	Funding available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Nutrition	11,159,200	-	-	56,306	11,102,894	99%
Health and HIV/AIDS	5,024,800	-	-	-	5,024,800	100%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	16,951,500 ^{28,29}	460,000	500,000	66,391	16,425,109	97%
Education	8,581,600	-	-	47,778	8,533,822	99%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	11,606,000	250,000	560,000	437,876	10,918,124	94%
Social protection	4,361,700	-	-	-	4,361,700	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	3,434,400	290,000	-	-	3,144,400	92%
Cluster coordination	1,144,800	-	-	-	1,144,800	100%
Emergency Preparedness	1,717,200	440,369	580	421,471	855,360	50%
Total	63,981,200	1,440,369	1,060,580	1,029,822	60,450,429	94%

*repurposed other resources with agreement from donors

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ENDNOTES

1. Figure from HRP 2022. This figure may be revised after the revision of the HAC 2023.
2. Figure from HRP 2022. This figure may be revised after the revision of the HAC 2023.
3. Source OIM/OCHA. 2023
4. UNICEF covers 100 per cent of the sector target, noting that UNICEF's target include refugees which is not included in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)
5. Figure is according to HNO/HRP 2022. This figure is to be reviewed after the publishing of the HNO/HRP 2023 based on SMART survey results: Enquêtes nutritionnelles SMART-SENS
6. Nutrition results have also been achieved through non-Emergency funding sources and carryover stock of RUTF.
7. Figure changed after SMART survey 2022 was finalized.
8. Figure is according to HNO/HRP 2022. This figure is to be reviewed after the publishing of the HNO/HRP 2023 based on SMART survey results: Enquêtes nutritionnelles SMART-SENS
9. UNICEF covers 100 per cent of the sector target, noting that UNICEF's target include refugees which is not included in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)
10. Figure changed after SMART survey 2022 was finalized.
11. UNICEF covers 100 per cent of the sector target, noting that UNICEF's target include refugees which is not included in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)
12. Figure is according to HNO/HRP 2022. This figure is to be reviewed after the publishing of the HNO/HRP 2023 based on SMART survey results: Enquêtes nutritionnelles SMART-SENS
13. Figure changed after SMART survey 2022 was finalized.
14. UNICEF covers 68 per cent of the overall needs. Among children assisted by UNICEF, 51 per cent are girls and 15,000 are refugees.
15. The regions concerned include Far North, North, Adamawa and East Regions.
16. This figure is for North-West and South-West Regions only.
17. About 50 per cent are children, and 50 per cent of the children are girls.
18. UNICEF covers 60 per cent of the sector target. The sector target covers 55 per cent of total people in need of access to mental health and psychosocial support. Among those assisted, 55 per cent are women/girls.
19. Includes 176,000 women/girls/boys accessing gender-based violence services through UNICEF's child protection programme and 131,280 women/girls/boys reached with gender-based violence risk mitigation. UNICEF covers 44 per cent of the sector target, which covers 55 per cent of total people in need of access to gender-based violence services. Among those assisted by UNICEF, 88 per cent are women/girls.
20. For North-West and South-West Regions, there are many voluntary separations where parents/caregivers have sent children to major cities and towns in the two regions as well as to the neighbouring regions of West and Littoral. Since these are voluntary separations in search of education opportunities, the typical family tracing and reunification response does not apply. However, there are also unaccompanied and separated children who have lost their parents/caregivers as a result of the conflict, and for whom alternative/foster care arrangements are needed.
21. UNICEF covers 48 per cent of the sector target.
22. Among children assisted, 52 per cent are girls.
23. UNICEF will support financial assistance mechanisms for education and social protection for 800 vulnerable households in six municipalities of Far North, West and Littoral Regions (2,400 children will be indirect beneficiaries). UNICEF, with the Government and the World Bank, will support the Government's social safety net project. Of 83,000 households assisted in that project, UNICEF will support 1,100 households (each to receive CFAF90,000). Target households are in Yaounde and Douala (3,300 children will be indirect beneficiaries).
24. Among the children assisted by UNICEF, 50 per cent are girls.
25. Health results have been achieved through non-Emergency funding sources
26. There is a drop in the target based on the current level of implementation (based on the experience in 2022 and at the end of 2021). Due to a huge drop in financial resources mobilized for the three crises, key targets were not met.
27. The global aggregate of provision of integrated health package in facilities and the community package for routine vaccination (Penta 3) for children aged 0-12 months; infectious respiratory diseases and acute diarrhoea treatments for children under the age of 5 years; and newborn kits for mothers/caregivers.
28. The funding for child protection includes funding for programming on gender-based violence and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.
29. Six per cent of this child protection amount is for gender-based violence programming and another 6 per cent for programming on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.