Burkina Faso

HIGHLIGHTS

- The people of Burkina Faso continue to experience a multidimensional humanitarian crisis that has worsened since 2019. More than 2 million people are displaced inside the country. A de facto blockade by armed groups of areas where more than 1 million people live or have sought refuge has deprived people of free movement and necessary supplies. And the number of schools closed due to attacks has increased by 50 per cent in one year to reach one quarter of all schools in the country, impacting the learning of more than 1 million children.

- A Rapid SMART (Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions) nutritional survey was carried out in July 2023 in 25 municipalities (most hard-to-reach, and those hosting the largest number of internally displaced persons in the six most conflict-affected regions). It revealed a wasting prevalence of more than 15 per cent in seven municipalities and more than 20 per cent in two.

- UNICEF requires $239 million in 2024 to continue investing in innovative mechanisms that address the short- and long-term vulnerabilities of women and children, with a focus on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), child protection, education and nutrition interventions.

KEY PLANNED TARGETS

- 179,252 children with severe wasting admitted for treatment
- 800,000 children/caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support
- 750,642 children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- 800,000 people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

- IN NEED: 6.3 million people, 3.4 million children
- TO BE REACHED: 3 million people, 2.5 million children

Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents.
HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

Burkina Faso, a landlocked country with an estimated population of 20 million, continues to be affected by a crisis whose hallmarks are armed conflict/insecurity; economic hardship; demographic pressure; political fragility and climate change-related shocks. This all has significant consequences on the country's sustainable development and on peace and respect for children's rights. Insecurity has spread to touch almost the entire country, resulting in the massive internal displacement of more than 2 million people, 58 per cent of them children; it has created needs and reduced the humanitarian access necessary to address them.

People's access to basic social services is challenging in several regions. Around 3.6 million people have been deprived of access to health care, with 397 health facilities – 19 per cent of all such facilities nationwide – closed, and 381 operating at minimum capacity. Into this breach of services a resurgence of such diseases as measles, dengue fever and chikungunya has come. Food insecurity has increased, and the nutrition situation in the country has worsened. An estimated 172,133 children under 5 years of age are wasted, 84 per cent of them in the most conflict-affected regions, including in areas that are hard to reach.

A major water crisis is also affecting the people of Burkina Faso, rooted in structural problems that predate the current crisis of insecurity but that are compounded by both the insecurity and the consequences of climate change. An estimated 3.2 million people have lost access to water due to insecurity. At the same time, Burkina Faso is among the top 20 countries for the effects climate change is having on children, with the impact of climate change causing a severe deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

The education sector, already fragile before the crisis (for example, one out of two school-aged children was out of school in 2014), has further deteriorated. Twenty-four per cent of schools (6,149 schools) are closed due to insecurity and attacks on infrastructure and staff. This has deprived more than 1 million children (including more than 500,000 girls) of their education and affected more than 31,000 teachers.

In this difficult humanitarian context, children remain the most affected and are exposed to all forms of violence, neglect and exploitation, including child labour and recruitment into armed groups. A total of 1,568 violations against 1,157 children were verified in 2022, including 366 grave violations against 294 children that had occurred in previous years and but were verified in 2022. Given that access for monitors remains a challenge, this information does not represent the full scale of violations against children.

STORY FROM THE FIELD

Juliette, 14, still dreams of becoming a teacher one day, even though the armed conflict has forced her to leave her home and school in her native Dablo, in Burkina Faso’s Centre-Nord Region.

"We left Dablo to come to Kaya because of the conflict. One day, we were in class, and they came to take us out, and we fled," recounts Juliette. In Burkina Faso, more than 2 million people have fled their homes due to violence.

In Kaya, Juliette received a school kit to support her return to school. UNICEF distributed 108,300 school kits to the most vulnerable children in regions affected by the crisis.

Read more about this story here
HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

In 2024, UNICEF will continue to support the Government to address the most urgent needs of 3 million people affected by frequent and protracted humanitarian crises, including 2.5 million children. UNICEF will strengthen the core strategic pillars that have guided its multisectoral programme delivery and will use a humanitarian—development—peace nexus approach, localization strategies and youth empowerment to achieve results.

UNICEF is developing access plans adapted to each intervention area to mitigate constraints linked to poor access to the most insecure communities and to provide appropriate responses, building on the Rapid Response and Community Resilience and Emergency Response Team approaches with other United Nations agencies. UNICEF will support public health emergency preparedness and response and use community-based approaches to scale up the provision of health care to populations. This includes task shifting to promote and provide health care in hard-to-reach areas; strengthening the capacity of health structures for nutrition surveillance and an integrated nutrition response; and delivering medical/nutritional therapeutic products.

To improve access to quality WASH services, UNICEF will reinforce support to community resilience and sustainability, working with local partners to ensure people's minimum access to services in hard-to-reach communities, while strengthening the capacity of water utility authorities to ensure the delivery of safe drinking water in urban areas. UNICEF will improve access to education by strengthening the education system and its ability to provide quality instruction, whether through non-formal, remedial, vocational, accelerated and/or formal education, both in-person and via radio. Education programmes include a psychosocial component using the safe schools approach.

UNICEF will support prevention and response to violence against children, including grave child rights violations, gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse. Community-based child protection workers and focal points will be equipped to collect and share data on grave violations. UNICEF will support implementation of the protocol on the transfer and care of children associated with armed forces and armed groups, and defense and security forces will be trained on children's rights, including on the rights of children associated with armed forces and armed groups. At the community level, mine risk education, awareness raising activities on gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse will be conducted and channels for reporting for survivors of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse established. Training for social workers on case management and mental health and psychosocial support will help improve children's access to a minimum package of services that includes mental health and psychosocial support through quality case management. UNICEF will strengthen mechanisms to collect and process complaints and provide feedback to meet its commitments to accountability to affected populations.

2024 PROGRAMME TARGETS

Health (including public health emergencies)
- 405,175 children vaccinated against measles, supplemental dose
- 561,720 children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities
- 78,930 Households that received at least two-long-lasting insecticide-treated nets in humanitarian context

Nutrition
- 1,200,000 children 6-59 months screened for wasting
- 179,252 children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment
- 661,000 primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling

Child protection, GBViE and PSEA
- 800,000 children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support
- 120,000 women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- 70,000 people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations
- 6,000 unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified

Education
- 750,642 children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- 675,578 children receiving individual learning materials
- 2,100 teachers and facilitators trained in basic pedagogy and/or mental health and psychosocial support

Water, sanitation and hygiene
- 800,000 people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs
- 800,000 people accessing appropriate sanitation services
- 1,000,000 people reached with critical WASH supplies

Social protection
- 140,671 households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in-kind) measures from government-funded programmes with UNICEF technical assistance

Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)
- 8,000 households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers (including for social protection and other sectors)
- 3,000,000 affected people (children, caregivers, community members) reached with timely and life-saving information on how and where to access available services
- 150,000 people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: https://www.unicef.org/appeals/burkina-faso/situation-reports

This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action. Programme targets are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents.
UNICEF requires $239 million in 2024 to maintain and expand programmes in Burkina Faso to meet the needs of 3 million vulnerable children, adolescents and women, including those living in isolated and hard-to-reach areas.

The amount requested is around 5 per cent more than in 2023 ($226.7 million), a slight increase linked primarily (but not solely) to the rising number of people in need and the access constraints – and associated logistical costs – of this particular operating environment.

With people having an especially difficult time accessing WASH services, the WASH sector alone accounts for 27 per cent of the appeal. Funding it fully will enable UNICEF to provide access to a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs for 800,000 people.

The substantial increase in the child protection targets and budget, compared with 2023, is to ensure access to quality mental and psychosocial support to 800,000 children living the consequences of the country’s poor protection environment. In 2023, UNICEF targeted 600,000 children. And due to additional nutrition and health needs, funding requirements increased by 13 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively, for programming in these sectors.

Compared with 2023, the education budget for 2024 is 10 per cent lower. Due to increasingly limited access for enacting formal education activities, UNICEF will invest in lighter education activities, such as radio education programmes, which are less costly.

Without adequate and timely support in 2024, UNICEF and its partners will be unable to meet the critical humanitarian needs of 2.5 million children in Burkina Faso.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2024 requirements (US$)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health (including public health emergencies)</td>
<td>22,192,299</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>37,506,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection, GBViE and PSEA</td>
<td>57,672,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>54,837,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>63,968,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social protection</td>
<td>161,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)</td>
<td>2,686,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>239,024,199</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions: Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP) (1.1%), Social protection (<1%).
According to the minimum expenditure basket finalized by the cash working group and the Government in 2023, displaced and host family households require on average CFAF41,000 ($66.44) to cover the gaps in their capacity to purchase the

ENDNOTES

1. UNICEF activated its Corporate Emergency Level 2 Scale-up Procedure for Sahel Crisis for the following period: 19 July 2022 - 19 December 2023. The status will be reviewed on that date. UNICEF Emergency Procedures are activated to ensure a timely and effective response to all crises. The emergency procedures provide a tailored package of mandatory actions and simplifications required for all offices responding to Level 3, Level 2 and Level 1 humanitarian situations.


3. The humanitarian cash transfers are implemented through a cash assistance mechanism known as “quick impact projects” (QIPs). The QIPs are quick, flexible, and scalable interventions that provide cash transfers to households to cover essential needs. These QIPs are implemented by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local authorities, or government agencies.

4. Humanitarian cash transfers: 6,000 households; Technical Assistance: 2,000 households.

5. With special attention to early childhood and adolescence.

6. Humanitarian cash transfers: 6,000 households; Technical Assistance: 2,000 households.

7. The 1,200,000 children aged 6–59 months targeted for screening is 65 per cent of children of this age living in the six most affected regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel).

8. Limited to the areas most affected by the humanitarian crisis. The humanitarian assistance is delivered through a cash assistance mechanism known as “quick impact projects” (QIPs).

9. The 1,200,000 children aged 6–59 months targeted for screening is 65 per cent of children of this age living in the six most affected regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel).

10. Calculated using the highest coverage programme targets of children aged 6–59 months screened for wasting (1,080,000, excluding 10.2 per cent for children aged 6–23 months); children aged 6–17 years old accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning (743,136); 49 per cent of people reached with critical WASH supplies, representing children 5 years of age and adults (491,000); and unaccompanied and separated children to be reached with family-based care or a suitable alternative (6,000); 27 per cent girls. 2.2 per cent children with disabilities to be reached.

11. More than one in five children in Burkina Faso suffers from wasting. The latest nutrition SMART survey in July 2023 found that all but 3 of 18 surveyed municipalities ranked either very high or high for malnutrition; the remaining 3 had a moderate level of malnutrition.

12. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.

13. Humanitarian cash transfers: 6,000 households; Technical Assistance: 2,000 households.

14. With 50 children per teacher, this intervention area will have a positive impact on 104,956 children, or 14 per cent of all the targeted children – the same percentage as in 2023.

15. The 2,400,000 children aged 6–59 months targeted for screening is 50 per cent of children of this age living in the six most affected regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel).


17. Corresponds to 60 per cent of pregnant and lactating women in the six most affected regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel).


19. This indicator is included in the annual report because it is a key performance indicator for the Education Cluster.

20. The number of people in need includes severely wasted children, moderately wasted children and pregnant and lactating women.

21. This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action.

22. UNICEF is committed to supporting the leadership and coordination of humanitarian response through its leadership or co-leadership of cluster coordination for the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. All cluster coordinator costs are included in sectoral programme budgets.

23. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.

24. This includes all districts in the six most affected regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel).

25. The number of people in need includes severely wasted children, moderately wasted children and pregnant and lactating women.

26. This is an increase of 44 per cent compared with the same period in 2022.

27. The 1,200,000 children aged 6–59 months targeted for screening is 65 per cent of children of this age living in the six most affected regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel).

28. This is an increase of 42 per cent compared with the same period in 2022.

29. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.

30. The number of people in need includes severely wasted children, moderately wasted children and pregnant and lactating women.

31. Calculated using highest coverage programme targets of children aged 6–59 months screened for wasting (1,080,000, excluding 10.2 per cent for children aged 6–23 months); children aged 6–17 years old accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning (743,136); 3.1 per cent of people reached with critical WASH supplies, representing children 5 years of age and adults (491,000); and unaccompanied and separated children to be reached with family-based care or a suitable alternative (6,000); 27 per cent girls. 2.2 per cent children with disabilities to be reached.

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33. This toll is comparable to the rate of malnutrition among children in Areas of Internal Displacement in Burkina Faso. The proportion of children as part of the population covered was therefore higher for the until 2024. Since the child rate among IDPs and host communities is 60 per cent and 52 per cent respectively, while the national rate is 51.2 per cent.

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