



Twin brothers, 2 years old, with their mother. "My twins had nutrition issues, but thanks to UNICEF's support, enriched porridge, and advice from nutrition support groups, they are now healthy".

unicef 
for every child

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 10

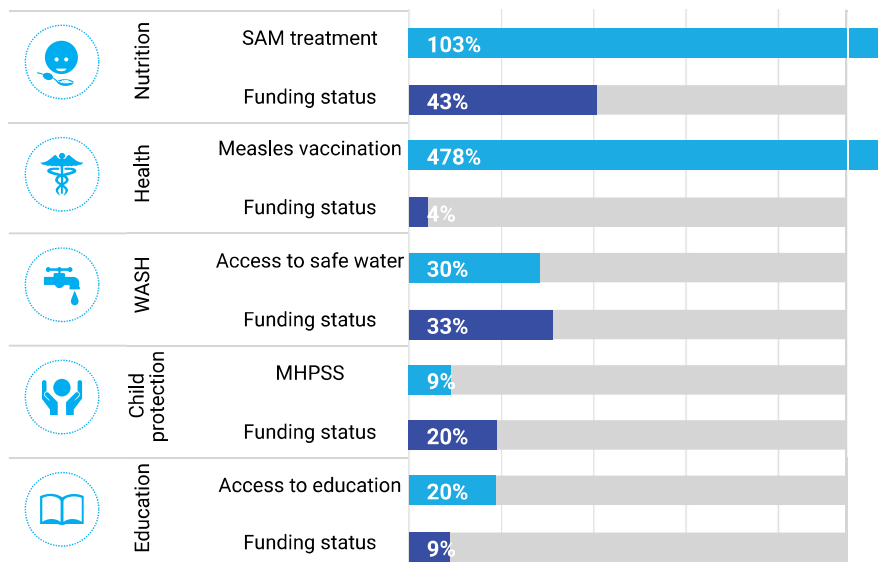
Reporting Period
1 January to 31
December 2024

Mali

HIGHLIGHTS

- Political and Security Situation:** Mali continues to face significant socio-political challenges, including political instability, a renewed transition process, and the withdrawal of ECOWAS. The security situation in 2024 remained volatile, marked by frequent clashes between Malian security forces and armed groups, blockades in the northern and central regions, and spillover violence in the south.
- Nutritional Crisis:** Food insecurity remained a major concern, with an estimated 2.5 million people affected in 2024. Approximately 268,000 children suffered from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). UNICEF has supported the treatment of 207,095 children aged 6–59 months for SAM across health and community facilities.
- Climate Impact:** Since April, Mali has experienced unprecedented flooding, exacerbated by climate change. Heavy rains and rising Niger River levels have affected 351,221 people, including 155,084 children, resulting in 86 deaths, extensive property damage, and mass displacement. Due to the crisis, the government postponed the reopening of schools by one month.

UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*

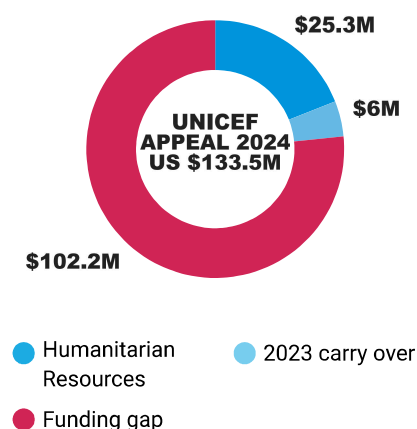


* UNICEF response % is only for the indicator, the funding status is for the entire sector.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS



FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



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

FUNDING OVERVIEW AND PARTNERSHIPS



UNICEF Country Representative Mr. Pierre Ngom, joined by the DCAP of Timbuktu, visits Sidi Mahmoud 1 School in Sankoré to support education initiatives.

In 2024, Mali's persistent humanitarian challenges led to a revision of the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal to US\$ 134.5 million, aligning it with the 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP).

Despite the growing needs, overall funding for the HAC Appeal dropped significantly, reaching only 23 percent of the target—down from 36 percent in 2023 and 54 percent in 2022. This decline mirrored funding shortfalls across sister agencies and implementing partners in Mali, with donors citing the impact of competing global emergencies. The largest funding gaps were in Health, with a 96 percent shortfall, followed by Education at 91 percent, and Child Protection at 80 percent.

Thirty percent of the funding was unearmarked, and less than 10 percent was multi-year, limiting the flexibility needed for sustained impact. Flexible and longer-term funding is crucial for a faster, more agile, and cost-effective humanitarian response that maximizes support for children.

In the first half of 2024, UNICEF Mali received additional support from Headquarters and Regional colleagues as a Level 2 (L2) Corporate Emergency to address the crisis following the withdrawal of the UN peacekeeping mission (MINUSMA) in December 2023. Mali's L2 emergency status was deactivated on June 19, 2024.

As part of its resource mobilization efforts, UNICEF organized a humanitarian roundtable in Bamako with partners, including the Good Humanitarian Donor Group (GHDG). This meeting provided a platform for transparent discussions on the humanitarian crisis and urgent funding needs. Additionally, UNICEF participated in a workshop focused on chronically underfunded emergencies in West and Central Africa, aiming to unlock more corporate, foundation, and National Committee funding. These efforts were part of UNICEF Mali's broader strategy to diversify its funding portfolio and increase available resources.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS¹

Mali continues to experience significant socio-political challenges, including a renewed transition process and the withdrawal of ECOWAS. The security situation remained complex throughout

2024, with ongoing confrontations between Malian security forces (FAMA) and armed groups, as well as multiple blockades imposed by these groups in the northern and central regions, contributing to regional instability. A major development was the formation of the Azawad Liberation Front (FLA) in Kidal following the dissolution of the Cadre Stratégique Permanent pour la Défense du Peuple de l'Azawad (CSP-PDA) in November 2024. This new alliance, which includes signatories of the 2015 Algiers peace agreements, reflects evolving dynamics among rebel groups, as evidenced by the increasing intensity of armed confrontations, notably the battle of Tinzawatene in July 2024.

Other non-state armed groups (NSAGs) continue to pose significant challenges to stability in the central and southern regions, frequently targeting FAMA outposts and convoys in Gao, Timbuktu, Segou, and Kayes using asymmetric warfare tactics. Their activities, including the obstruction of access to key areas, have exacerbated food and nutrition insecurity, leading to increased displacement. The prolonged siege of Menaka has further restricted trade routes, while similar blockades in places like Boni and Niafounké have hindered the delivery of essential services and humanitarian aid. These groups are also expanding their influence into regions previously considered secure, with incidents of violence affecting Sikasso and Kayes, particularly along the borders with Mauritania and Burkina Faso. The evolving security landscape was underscored by the attacks on Bamako International Airport and a nearby gendarmerie school in September, which further restricted humanitarian operations and increased operational risks.

Humanitarian actors faced significant barriers to delivering aid in conflict zones, with insecurity and limited access impeding outreach to the most vulnerable populations. Funding shortfalls and a lack of adequately trained personnel further constrained the ability to meet growing needs, leaving critical gaps in emergency responses across all sectors. While localized improvements, such as reduced conflict intensity in parts of Koutiala, were observed, many regions remained inaccessible to aid organizations.

Persistent insecurity, widespread displacement, natural disasters, and public health emergencies have compounded vulnerabilities, leaving 7.1 million people, including 3.8 million children, in urgent need of assistance.

Health infrastructure in Mali has been severely impacted by attacks, staff shortages, and inadequate medical supplies, reducing its capacity to provide basic healthcare. As of the end of October 2024, five attacks on health facilities had been reported, resulting in 21 deaths and three injuries. Approximately 4 percent of health facilities are now non-functional due to insecurity. Although the country has made some progress in disease control, with a slight decrease in confirmed measles cases compared to 2023, outbreaks continue to affect children, particularly in Sikasso, Kayes, Mopti, and Koulikoro. In 2024, a total of 706 suspected measles cases were reported, with 341 confirmed cases—a slight decrease from the 354 cases recorded in 2023. The most affected regions included Sikasso, with 86 cases, Kayes with 53, Mopti with 45, and Koulikoro with 37. Routine immunization efforts have struggled to reach zero-dose and missed children, particularly in conflict-affected areas. Additionally, the fight against vaccine-derived poliomyelitis continued, with one case reported in 2024. While this represents an improvement, it remains a reminder of the ongoing risks. Public health emergencies further disrupted healthcare services, highlighting weaknesses in the health system's resilience and response capacity.

The nutritional situation remains alarming, particularly in conflict-affected regions in the North and Center, where many areas have been classified as Critical or Serious under the IPC AMN framework. An estimated 2.5 million people in Mali were food insecure in 2024, and approximately 268,000 children suffered from severe wasting.

According to the March 2024 Cadre Harmonisé, more than 2,500 people faced catastrophic levels of food insecurity in Menaka, while 60,000 people were experiencing emergency levels of hunger. Malnutrition continues to pose a severe threat to children under five, as well as pregnant and lactating women, driven by factors such as food insecurity, displacement, and limited access to health and nutrition services. Although efforts to improve infant and young child feeding practices have shown progress, widespread micronutrient deficiencies and insufficient resources continue to hinder the response to escalating nutritional needs.

The education sector in Mali was severely impacted by insecurity and climate-induced disasters, significantly reducing access to education in central and northern regions. These challenges disrupted learning opportunities and increased the risk of school dropouts. Flooding in 2024 delayed the start of the school year by over a month, affecting 537,600 children, deepening vulnerabilities, and widening educational disparities. Additionally, at the beginning of the 2024 school year, insecurity rendered 2,017 schools non-functional, impacting over 600,000 children and 12,000 teachers—a 25% increase from the previous year. Some schools were also closed due to occupation by internally displaced persons (IDPs). Teachers faced heightened risks, and displacement further strained the capacity of host schools. Flooding compounded these challenges by damaging hundreds of schools, underscoring the urgent need for resilient infrastructure and contingency planning.

Ongoing conflict and insecurity have exacerbated protection risks for children and women, with widespread reports of family separation, recruitment into armed groups, gender-based violence, and exposure to explosive remnants of war. Child protection concerns in Mali have escalated significantly in 2024. Between January and September, 3,089 children (1,659 girls) were affected by protection incidents—a 190% increase compared to the same period in 2023. The 2023 Annual Report of the UN Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, released in June 2024, documented 1,141 grave violations affecting 1,024 children (879 boys) in Mali, reflecting an 11% rise from the previous year. The most prevalent violation remains the recruitment and use of children by armed groups, primarily in support roles, affecting 691 children (31 girls). The UN report also recorded 260 children killed (107) or seriously injured (153), a 6% increase from the previous year. These violations often occur during village attacks, stray bullet incidents, military operations, and due to improvised explosive devices (IEDs) or explosive remnants of war. According to the Mine Action Area of Responsibility, children—particularly boys—account for the majority of these casualties.

Climate change has exacerbated environmental challenges in Mali, leading to recurrent flooding that hindered progress and disrupted efforts to address the ongoing humanitarian crisis. Between April and November, flooding affected nearly all of Mali's 20 regions, with the most severe impacts in Mopti (84,437 individuals), Ségou (74,552 individuals), and Gao (45,623 individuals). Bamako also suffered significantly, with 44,307 individuals affected. During this period, 175 schools were used as shelters for displaced persons, while 168 schools were damaged, severely disrupting education and delaying the academic year. The damage to schools will require costly repairs, further delaying their reopening and affecting children's right to education. The floods also increased the risk of waterborne diseases, malaria, and dengue due to unsanitary conditions in shelters, exposing children and vulnerable groups to respiratory infections. Health infrastructure was also affected, with 33 health centers damaged, further complicating the response to the rising health crisis.

Mali's complex humanitarian landscape in 2024 highlights the urgent need for coordinated, multi-sectoral responses to address persistent challenges. As the country continues to grapple with conflict, climate

shocks, and structural vulnerabilities, sustained efforts to transition from humanitarian action to early recovery, build resilience, improve access to basic services, and strengthen local capacity will be essential to alleviating suffering and safeguarding the future of the most vulnerable populations.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

Health



Various types of vaccines used to protect children against diseases, prepared during a vaccination session at the internally displaced persons site in Diaba, central Mopti region.

A nationwide measles and rubella vaccination campaign in March 2024 achieved remarkable results, vaccinating 10,431,015 children aged 9 months to 14 years—exceeding the target of 9,514,126 and achieving 109.6% coverage. UNICEF played a pivotal role in supporting this campaign by providing technical expertise, ensuring the timely delivery of vaccines to hard-to-reach areas, training health workers, and strengthening communication to mobilize communities. A post-campaign evaluation reported a national coverage of 89.8%, reflecting both the campaign's impact and ongoing efforts to close immunization gaps.

Efforts to combat poliomyelitis have also shown improvement, with only one case of vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (PVDV2) reported in Sikasso, compared to 15 cases in 2023. UNICEF contributed to multiple national campaigns, reaching 7,889,299 children under five (109.2% of the target) through vaccine delivery, training, supervision, and communication efforts.

Community engagement, particularly through women leaders, facilitated the immunization of an additional 15,156 children under one year. Routine health services supported by UNICEF included antenatal care for 365,615 pregnant women and the vaccination of 305,818 children under one year (including 149,851 girls) with at least one dose of the pentavalent vaccine. Additionally, 632,989 children under five were treated nationwide for malaria, 89,303 for diarrhea, and 296,261 for acute respiratory infections.

In response to public health emergencies such as flooding and epidemics, UNICEF supported 47 health districts with emergency kits and essential medicines, enabling treatment for 1,438,168 cases of childhood diseases.

Through these efforts, UNICEF has contributed to strengthening the health system, improving disease control, and enhancing emergency response capacities, demonstrating its commitment to safeguarding the health and well-being of children and women in Mali.

Nutrition



Aichata feeds enriched porridge to her 6-month-old child during a nutritional demonstration session in the village of Maraki, located in the central region of Mopti.

Despite numerous challenges, UNICEF made significant strides in addressing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2024. The organization successfully treated 207,095 children aged 6–59 months, including 111,323 girls, for SAM across health facilities. This achievement was supported by strong performance indicators, such as a recovery rate of 95.09% (exceeding the 75% target), a mortality rate of 0.58% (well below the WHO threshold of 5%), and a defaulter rate of 4.33% (below the 15% threshold).

In addition to SAM treatment, UNICEF focused on improving Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices, reaching 767,059 caregivers, including 589,340 pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) —a 25.5% increase over 2023. These efforts were complemented by sensitization campaigns on hygiene, sanitation, early childhood stimulation, and malnutrition screening, which contributed to enhanced caregivers' knowledge and practices surrounding nutrition. To address micronutrient deficiencies, UNICEF provided Vitamin A supplementation to 5,297,504 children aged 6–59 months nationwide, including 3,043,058 girls. Furthermore, 4,784,624 children aged 12–59 months received deworming treatment, and multi-micronutrient powders were distributed to 115,959 children aged 6–23 months in regions such as Timbuktu, Gao, Mopti, and Ménaka.

The year 2024 highlighted the urgent need for sustained and coordinated efforts to address the ongoing nutritional crisis in Mali². A key component of this response was the Nutrition Cluster, which played a central role in coordinating activities to ensure alignment with sector priorities and prevent the duplication of efforts. The cluster also implemented a localization strategy, strengthening local capacity through training on IYCF and integrated care, while providing technical support to local implementing partners.

Thanks to these collaborative efforts, 1,933,192 people in need of urgent nutritional assistance were reached, representing 78% of the 2,494,400 target set in the humanitarian response plan. Despite these achievements, significant challenges remained, including limited access to vulnerable populations due to insecurity in conflict-affected areas, substantial funding gaps (with only 39.7% of the required funding for nutrition activities secured), and a shortage of adequately trained health workers in remote regions. These obstacles hindered the effective delivery of services and underscored the need for intensified efforts moving forward.

In 2025, the Nutrition Cluster aims to build on the progress made in 2024 by further strengthening its localization strategy, particularly

through partnerships with local organizations to improve access to hard-to-reach areas, in close alignment with the Country Office's access strategy. The cluster will also advocate for increased funding to close gaps in achieving sectoral targets and scale up capacity-building initiatives, focusing on IYCF in emergencies, integrated care, and data collection and analysis systems. These efforts will enhance monitoring mechanisms and ensure a more effective response to the evolving nutritional needs of the most vulnerable populations in Mali.

Child Protection, GBViE, and PSEA



Children play happily with staff from UNICEF's partner NGO – COOPI, in front of a Child-Friendly Space at the internally displaced persons site in Diaba, located in the central region of Mopti.

In 2024, UNICEF and its partners continued to address the critical needs of children affected by Mali's humanitarian crisis. Despite challenges such as limited funding, restricted access to conflict-affected areas, and operational constraints, significant progress was made in areas including child protection, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, risk education, and advocacy.

Throughout the year, 68,698 children, including 36,263 girls, received psychosocial support and participated in recreational activities offered in 156 child-friendly spaces, of which 80 were mobile. An additional 2,290 caregivers, predominantly women, took part in awareness-raising and psychosocial support sessions. These efforts represented 25 percent of UNICEF's annual target. To further strengthen community-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, UNICEF organized a workshop for 68 project managers and field workers to enhance their capacity in community mechanisms and alleviate pressure on specialized care facilities.

The care and protection of vulnerable children remained a priority. A total of 1,247 unaccompanied and separated children received appropriate care, either within families or alternative settings, achieving 45 percent of the annual target. In parallel, 279 children formerly associated with armed groups (CAAFAGs) participated in reintegration programs, including income-generating activities, which represented 35 percent of the target. UNICEF also facilitated a series of webinars to build technical expertise on issues affecting CAAFAGs, reaching 207 participants from 66 organizations.

UNICEF also focused on addressing gender-based violence (GBV) and enhancing the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). GBV-related interventions reached over 35,000 people, with specialized training provided to humanitarian workers on case management, psychosocial support, and safeguarding protocols. The national PSEA plan was expanded across five field offices, enabling over 121,000 people, including nearly 39,000 girls, to

access safe reporting mechanisms. Workshops on the UN Victim Assistance Protocol further strengthened PSEA systems at both national and field levels.

In response to increasing risks from landmines and explosive remnants of war, UNICEF supported mine risk education for 11,500 children in central and northern Mali. Additionally, 158 personnel from 35 organizations were trained in mine risk education to enhance safety and awareness. Advocacy efforts included supporting the implementation of the declaration on school safety and providing capacity-building sessions for 285 members of the UN Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism to improve coordination and reporting on children affected by armed conflict.

Despite funding shortfalls, with emergency child protection funding decreasing from 23 percent in 2023 to 20 percent in 2024, and limited access to intervention areas, UNICEF remained committed to strengthening community-based mechanisms, improving local capacities, and enhancing coordination with government and humanitarian partners to better meet the needs of children and families in Mali.

Education



Mohamed, 11, and Wallet, 13, displaced children, are all smiles after receiving their school kits for the 2024-2025 school year.

In 2024, UNICEF and its partners made significant strides in improving access to quality, inclusive education in conflict-affected areas of Mali. A total of 59,003 children, including 28,203 girls, benefited from formal and non-formal education initiatives across the country, while 127,280 children (61,349 girls) received individual learning materials. However, these achievements represented only 20% and 12% of the respective annual targets for these activities, due to a critical funding gap of \$29.5 million, which accounts for 91% of the required resources. Despite this, UNICEF's role as a provider of last resort, supported by flexible funding and prepositioned supplies, enabled impactful humanitarian responses.

At the start of the 2024 school year, insecurity caused 2,017 schools to become non-functional, affecting over 600,000 children and 12,000 teachers—a 25% increase from the previous year. UNICEF played a pivotal role in reopening and sustaining schools, including 31 new schools in Sikasso and Tombouctou, which benefited 3,238 children (1,455 girls). These efforts included advocacy and teacher redeployment, ensuring sustainability where security permitted.

Additionally, climate-induced floods disrupted over 600 schools, highlighting the urgent need for climate-resilient infrastructure and stronger protection mechanisms. UNICEF supported 526 schools for the back-to-school season, benefiting 30,857 children (15,261 girls), and responded rapidly with prepositioned supplies, including 206

tents and 304 "school-in-a-box" kits.

In displacement-affected regions, UNICEF enhanced the capacity of host schools and established alternative education spaces, benefiting 4,011 displaced children (1,776 girls) through both formal and non-formal education. Capacity-building efforts trained 1,517 teachers (370 women), while 948 School Management Committee members (241 women) received training on their roles, responsibilities, and education in emergencies.

As the Education Cluster lead, UNICEF coordinated emergency responses, developed contingency plans for five priority regions, and advanced the Multi-Year Resilience Program (MYRP-2) in partnership with Education Cannot Wait (ECW). This program aims to provide quality education to 204,496 children, ensuring learning continuity amidst protracted crises. UNICEF also improved data management capacities for 79 agents and introduced tailored educational programs to address local needs and mitigate disruptions.

UNICEF's coordinated and strategic interventions have been instrumental in maintaining educational continuity, addressing urgent needs, and laying the foundation for resilience in Mali's education system. However, overcoming funding challenges remains critical to scaling these efforts and achieving broader impacts for children in need.

Water, sanitation and hygiene



UNICEF and its partners rehabilitated and equipped an old borehole into a simplified water supply system. This emergency project installed 3 water fountains to provide a access to safe drinking water

In 2024, despite worsening security challenges, severe flooding, and significant funding gaps, UNICEF and its partners provided critical water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services to vulnerable populations in Mali. These interventions addressed the immediate needs of displaced communities while also contributing to long-term resilience-building efforts.

From January to December 2024, UNICEF reached 156,397 people, including 84,063 children and 37,535 women, through emergency WASH kit distribution and hygiene promotion. Among them, 26,047 individuals gained sustainable access to potable water via newly constructed water points, and 7,298 women and girls received menstrual hygiene kits. However, the achievements fell short of the annual targets due to a 67% funding gap in the \$15.6 million requested for WASH emergency interventions. As a result, only 30% of the target for water access and 39% of the target for essential kit distribution were met.

As the WASH Cluster Lead Agency, UNICEF coordinated 76 actors³ to deliver a collective response, reaching 769,191 people (32% of

the annual WASH target). These collaborative efforts led to significant advancements, including the development of an emergency WASH guide and a strategic operational framework that improved partner alignment and the overall quality of the response. The WASH Cluster's Accountability and Quality Assurance Initiative introduced monitoring tools and harmonized data collection, further enhancing service delivery. Additionally, Mali piloted the WASH Insecurity Analysis (WIA), which identified areas with low WASH access and high vulnerability to guide future interventions.

Persistent barriers, such as insecurity and limited humanitarian access, were further exacerbated by the impacts of climate change. Nonetheless, UNICEF's integrated WASH responses promoted social cohesion and strengthened community ownership. The active participation of women in water point management committees ensured inclusive decision-making that reflected the unique needs of both children and women.

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



In a classroom in Ségou, a young U-Reporter engages a student in raising awareness about the importance of HIV/AIDS testing and protection.

Throughout the year, UNICEF's Social and Behavior Change (SBC) initiatives focused on participatory and community-centered approaches to address urgent needs and enhance access to essential social services. These efforts included leveraging digital platforms like U-Report, engaging local and religious leaders, using proximity communication, and conducting mass communication campaigns. The Human-Centered Design (HCD) approach was introduced in regions with low utilization of basic social services, particularly in emergency settings.

Pivotal coordination efforts through internal, regional, and national meetings aimed to guide priorities toward supporting vulnerable populations. These activities led to the development of 63 multisectoral prevention and response plans, along with the adaptation of communication tools and materials. To enhance emergency preparedness, SBC data linked to Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) indicators were integrated into DHIS2, improving the monitoring of demand generation during crises.

Severe flooding prompted immediate assessments of population preparedness in affected regions, which led to the development and implementation of rapid communication plans. Over 11.5 million people, including 6.9 million women and girls, were reached with prevention messages related to health and natural emergencies. Community engagement activities involved 585,061 individuals, with 290,310 women and girls participating. Additionally, 177,597 people, including 45,253 women and girls, provided feedback through established accountability mechanisms. This outcome far exceeded

projections, thanks to the expanded role of U-Report in emergency management and the proactive involvement of social media bloggers.

These achievements highlight UNICEF's unwavering commitment to supporting vulnerable populations, enhancing resilience, and fostering active community engagement in the face of emergencies.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

Humanitarian Action and Coordination in Mali are led by the Ministry of Health and Social Development, which oversees Humanitarian Affairs, with support from the UN Humanitarian Country Team.

UNICEF plays a key role by leading the WASH and Nutrition Clusters, as well as the Child Protection Sub-Cluster (AoR), and co-leading the Education Cluster. As the lead agency for these Clusters, UNICEF has consistently provided effective support and engagement in the Humanitarian Planning Cycle (HPC) process in Mali.

In addition, UNICEF is actively involved in several in-country coordination groups, including the Interagency PSEA Task Force, the Interagency Gender in Emergency Working Group, and the Humanitarian Access Working Group.

UNICEF's coordination efforts between the National Directorate for Social Development (DNDS) and the General Directorate for Civil Protection (DGPC) have been pivotal in enhancing humanitarian action on the ground. By funding joint meetings and field missions, UNICEF facilitated critical evaluations and contributed to the development of improved response strategies. This collaborative approach ensured that stakeholders worked within a unified, coordinated framework—essential for effective emergency management.

A significant achievement was UNICEF's support in the development and updating of national strategies for humanitarian action. The updated national multi-hazard contingency plan (DGCP) and the newly developed National Flood Plan (DNDS) have become vital tools in federating all emergency management efforts. These plans have greatly improved local authorities' ability to respond to emergencies, resulting in a clear improvement in the capacity to protect children's rights during crises. UNICEF also provided technical support for flood zone mapping and promoted a harmonized data management tool that improved coordination between the DGPC and DNDS. Internally, UNICEF developed a Flood Response Plan that enhanced the speed and effectiveness of the organization's emergency response.

UNICEF's contributions to evidence generation have been substantial. By supporting the Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA), UNICEF informed the creation of the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP). The organization's ongoing support to the DRDSES for rapid needs assessments during alerts ensured that responses to emerging crises were based on accurate, timely data. This evidence-based approach is critical for addressing the evolving needs of children and families in crisis situations.

To improve humanitarian access, UNICEF developed a localization strategy aimed at addressing immediate needs and promoting access to essential social services in hard-to-reach areas, particularly in the central and northern regions of the country. A pilot initiative was launched in partnership with four national NGOs, in close collaboration with the DNDS and OCHA. Additionally, initial discussions were held regarding potential synergies and partnerships related to the development of a Child Rapid Response with the Malian Red Cross and national NGOs, aimed at enhancing

service delivery to support the immediate and critical needs of children in hotspot areas.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA



A week dedicated to the well-being of children through games, sports, educational, and cultural activities.

In 2024, UNICEF Mali effectively implemented its comprehensive humanitarian communication and advocacy strategy, initially developed for the L2 response, to support humanitarian efforts, promote children's rights, and achieve fundraising goals. As co-lead of the Education Cluster and lead of the Education Dialogue Group, UNICEF continued its advocacy for access to quality education for all school-age children, despite challenges such as flooding that delayed the opening of the 2024-2025 school year.

UNICEF also enhanced its crisis communication capabilities, organizing media field visits to amplify the voices of affected communities and highlight their resilience. B-roll footage and content shared on WeShare allowed international media to cover Mali's humanitarian needs despite restricted field access. UNICEF's advocacy themes were featured 871 times across various media platforms, including high-profile outlets such as FORBES and EL País. However, the limited media space led to a 13% reduction in overall coverage of children's issues.

Digital engagement on children's rights grew significantly, reaching over 10.3 million accounts—a tenfold increase from 2023. Campaigns addressing flooding, education, nutrition, protection, and climate change reached 5.6 million accounts, while 186 multimedia pieces—nearly double the previous year's output—were published on UNICEF platforms. This included 19 productions featured on global and regional channels, raising awareness and garnering support for key advocacy priorities.

UNICEF amplified youth voices through multimedia content and high-level international advocacy. Young advocates represented Mali at global events such as the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, COP29, and the CSW event in New York, focusing on climate change and adolescent girls' rights in crisis settings.

To strengthen donor engagement, UNICEF distributed three newsletters highlighting the impact of partner contributions. Branding initiatives included training field staff and partners on visual identity guidelines, with a focus on humanitarian regions such as Gao.

UNICEF Mali's strategic communication efforts in 2024 reinforced its role as a leader in advocacy, digital engagement, and media outreach, while advancing the rights and resilience of children and

communities in humanitarian contexts.

- [In Mali, half of the 7.1 million people requiring humanitarian assistance in 2024 are children](#)

- [An On-Ramp To Education For Out-Of-School Children In Mali](#)

- [Rapid response to the needs of children affected by the crisis in northern Mali](#)

- [Protection des filles et des garçons en mobilité](#)

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: 31 MARCH 2025

ANNEX A - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Consolidated Programme Results

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2024 targets	Total results	Progress*	2024 targets	Total results	Progress*
Nutrition								
Children aged 6 to 59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for treatment	Total	-	201,250	207,095	▲ 103%	201,250	207,095	▲ 103%
	Girls	-	201,250	111,323	▲ 55%	201,250	111,323	▲ 55%
	Boys	-	201,250	95,772	▲ 48%	201,250	95,772	▲ 48%
Primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling	Total	-	463,522	767,059	▲ 165%	463,522	767,059	▲ 165%
	Women	-	463,522	589,340	▲ 127%	463,522	589,340	▲ 127%
	Men	-	463,522	177,719	▲ 38%	463,522	177,719	▲ 38%
Health								
Children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles	Total	-	2.2 million	10.4 million	▲ 478%	-	-	-
Children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against polio	Total	-	1.4 million	7.2 million	▲ 511%	-	-	-
Water, sanitation and hygiene								
People accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	3.4 million	523,500	156,398	▲ 30%	1.3 million	647,665	▲ 51%
	Girls	3.4 million	523,500	43,519	▲ 8%	1.3 million	187,823	▲ 15%
	Boys	3.4 million	523,500	45,354	▲ 9%	1.3 million	180,245	▲ 14%
	Women	3.4 million	523,500	34,406	▲ 7%	1.3 million	142,486	▲ 11%
	Men	3.4 million	523,500	33,119	▲ 6%	1.3 million	137,111	▲ 11%
People use safe and appropriate sanitation facilities	Total	2.1 million	50,000	19,401	▲ 39%	160,000	254,804	▲ 159%
	Women	2.1 million	50,000	9,666	▲ 19%	160,000	129,950	▲ 81%
	Men	2.1 million	50,000	9,735	▲ 19%	160,000	124,854	▲ 78%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	2.1 million	336,000	130,350	▲ 39%	1.3 million	769,191	▲ 60%
	Women	2.1 million	336,000	64,947	▲ 19%	1.3 million	392,287	▲ 31%
	Men	2.1 million	336,000	65,403	▲ 19%	1.3 million	376,904	▲ 30%
Child Protection, GBVIE and PSEA								

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2024 targets	Total results	Progress*	2024 targets	Total results	Progress*
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)	Girls	-	384,783	36,263	▲ 9%	786,930	57,421	▲ 7%
	Boys	-	384,783	32,435	▲ 8%	786,930	55,292	▲ 7%
	Women	-	384,783	1,364	0%	786,930	6,434	▲ 1%
	Men	-	7,486	926	▲ 12%	786,930	3,997	▲ 1%
People with safe and accessible channels to report Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Girls	-	572,500	38,785	▲ 7%	-	-	-
	Boys	-	572,500	16,228	▲ 3%	-	-	-
	Women	-	572,500	6,645	▲ 1%	-	-	-
	Men	-	572,500	4,303	▲ 1%	-	-	-
Children who have exited armed forces and groups provided with protection or reintegration support	Girls	-	700	75	▲ 11%	1,000	88	▲ 9%
	Boys	-	700	204	▲ 29%	1,000	223	▲ 22%
Unaccompanied and separated children accessing family-based care or a suitable alternative	Girls	-	2,400	443	▲ 18%	4,000	655	▲ 16%
	Boys	-	2,400	804	▲ 34%	4,000	1,153	▲ 29%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	166,100	35,092	▲ 21%	-	-	-
	Girls	-	166,100	11,949	▲ 7%	-	-	-
	Boys	-	166,100	12,195	▲ 7%	-	-	-
	Women	-	166,100	6,645	▲ 4%	-	-	-
	Men	-	166,100	4,303	▲ 3%	-	-	-
People with safe and accessible channels to report Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	572,500	35,092	▲ 6%	-	-	-
Children who have exited an armed force and groups provided with protection or reintegration support	Total	-	700	279	▲ 40%	1,000	311	▲ 31%
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)	Total	-	384,783	70,988	▲ 18%	786,930	123,144	▲ 16%

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2024 targets	Total results	Progress*	2024 targets	Total results	Progress*
Unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified	Total	-	1,600	1,247	▲ 78%	4,000	1,808	▲ 45%
Education								
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	300,000	59,003	▲ 20%	300,000	253,094	▲ 84%
	Girls	-	300,000	28,203	▲ 9%	300,000	129,468	▲ 43%
	Boys	-	300,000	30,800	▲ 10%	300,000	123,626	▲ 41%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	1.1 million	127,280	▲ 12%	2.8 million	151,942	▲ 6%
	Girls	-	1.1 million	1,478	0%	2.8 million	74,341	▲ 3%
	Boys	-	1.1 million	65,931	▲ 6%	2.8 million	77,601	▲ 3%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)								
People engaged in reflective dialogue through community platforms	Total	-	600,000	585,061	▲ 98%	-	-	-
People sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms	Total	-	100,000	177,597	▲ 178%	-	-	-

*Progress in the reporting period 1 January to 31 December 2024

ANNEX B — FUNDING STATUS

Consolidated funding by sector

Sector	Requirements	Funding available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2024	Resources available from 2023 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health (including public health emergencies)	14,005,125	254,753	273,328	13,477,044	96%
Nutrition	33,272,170	12,691,217	1,470,991	19,109,962	57%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	25,346,535	3,387,684	1,687,019	20,271,832	80%
Education	32,437,460	1,129,686	1,718,350	29,589,424	91%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	15,622,525	5,181,445	5,229	10,435,851	67%
Social protection	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	8,815,085	-	98,954	8,716,131	99%
Emergency Preparedness	3,001,100	2,684,452	703,577	-	0%
Total	133,500,000	25,329,237	5,957,448	102,213,315	77%

Funding available - funding available in the current appeal year to respond in line with the current HAC appeal.

Humanitarian resources– humanitarian funding commitments received from donors in the current appeal year.

Resources available from 2023 (carry over)– funding received in the previous appeal year that is available to respond in line with the current HAC appeal

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ENDNOTES

1. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mali/mali-tableau-de-bord-acces-humanitaire-septembre-2024>

2. UNICEF worked in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and numerous national and international NGOs, including YAG-TU, Help for Sahel, ATDED, CREDEL, AVENIR, G-FORCE, GRADP, COOPI, IMC, and World Vision, to deliver humanitarian assistance to nutritional hotspots.

3. These WASH Cluster actors include 23 government technical services (AE Nioro, DNACPN, DNPFEF, DRACPN Gao, DRACPN Kidal, DRDSES Gao, DRDSES Kayes, DRDSES Kidal, DRDSES Sikasso, DRDSES Tombouctou, DRH Gao, DRH Kayes, DRH Kidal, DRH Ménaka, DRH Mopti, DRH Sikasso, DRH Taoudénit, DRH Tombouctou, DRPC Gao, DRPC Sikasso, DRS Gao, DRS Koulikoro, and DRS Ménaka); 30 national NGOs (ALPHALOG, ERADD, GAAS Mali, POD, UAVES, Action Mopti, ADIZOSS, AEDM, AMASSA Afrique Verte, AMPRODE Sahel, AMSS, ASG, ASSADDEC, CAEB, Caritas Mopti, CRADE, FAABA, GARDL, GARI, G-FORCE, GREFFA, GSAD, IMADEL, JEM, NOHO, ODES-Mali, SOLISA, Stop Sahel, TASSAGHT, and USCET); 21 international NGOs (ACF-E, ACTED, AEN, Alianza-ActionAid, Arche Nova, BORDA, CECI, CRS, DEDI, HELP, IR Mali, IRC, LWR, Mercy Corps, NRC, OXFAM, SAD, SI, Tearfund, WHH, and WVI); as well as WFP and ICRC.