

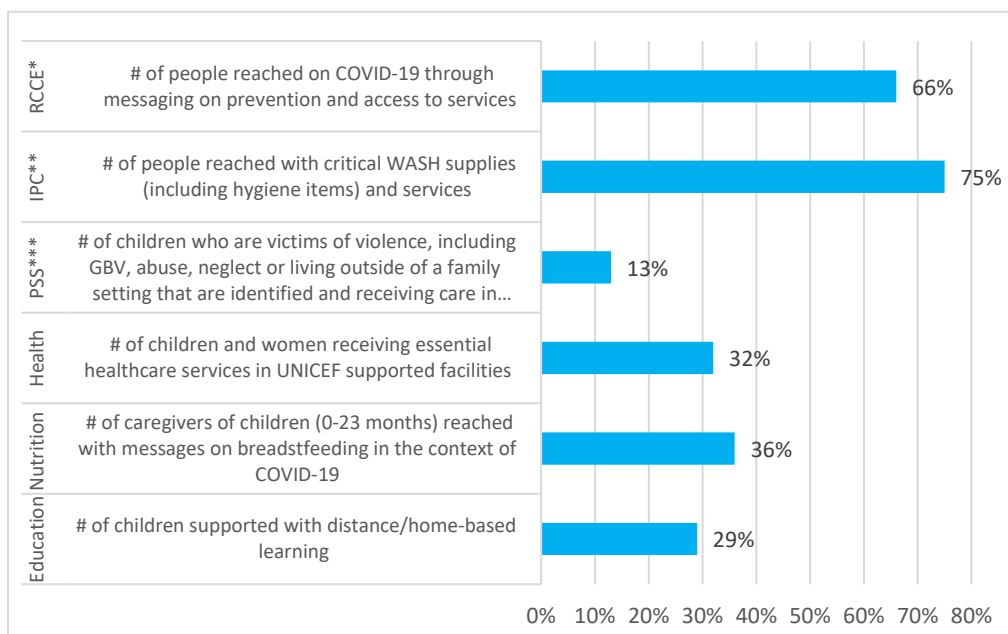


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Highlights

- **More than 4.5 million children have access to distance learning** thanks to partnerships with 296 radio stations and 23 TV channels
- **Over half a million community masks** distributed
- **29 million people** reached with key messages on how to prevent COVID-19
- **75,065 calls** managed by the COVID-19 Hotline
- **4,495 people** (including 1,403 children) affected by COVID-19 and 610 frontline workers provided with **psychosocial support**

UNICEF's COVID-19 Response



* Risk Communication and Community Engagement
** Infection Prevention and Control
*** Child Protection and Psychosocial Support

COVID-19 overview

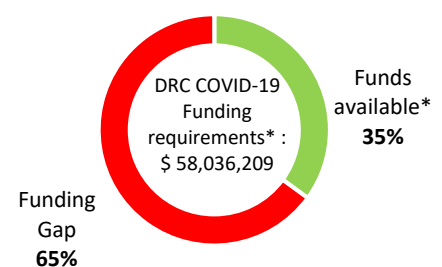
(as of 7 July 2020)



2.4% Fatality Rate

Kinshasa recorded 85% (6,697) of all confirmed cases. Other affected provinces including # of cases are: **North Kivu** (174) **South Kivu** (266) **Ituri** (3) **Kongo Central** (349) **Haut Katanga** (183) **Kwilu** (4) **Kwango** (1) **Haut Lomami** (1) **Lualaba** (56) **Tshopo** (13) **Haut Huele** (16) **South Ubangi** (3) **Equateur** (2)

DRC COVID-19 Response Funding Status

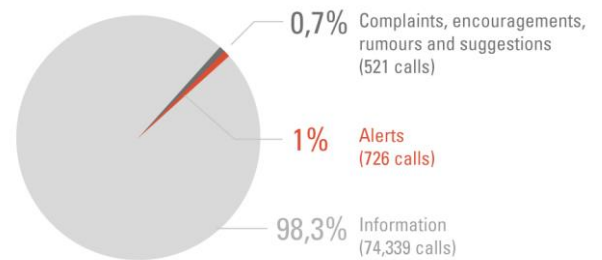


*Funds available include 9 million USD UNICEF



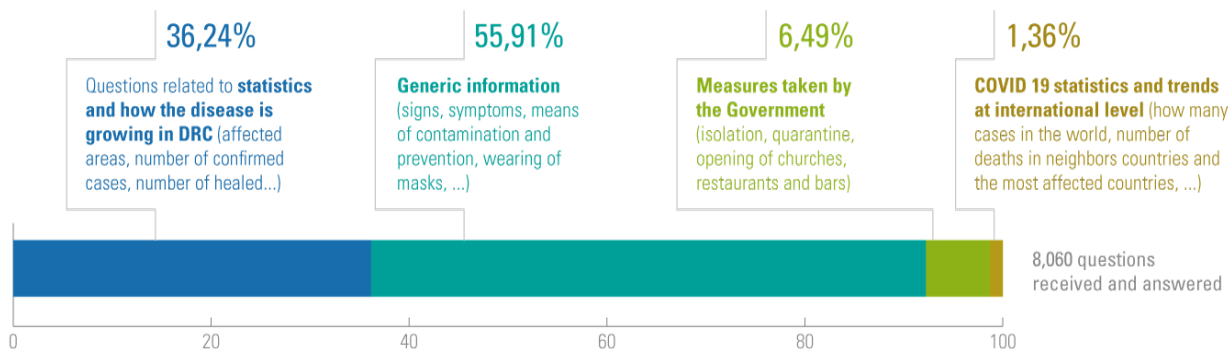
Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

1) COVID-19 Hotline: During the reporting period, the COVID-19 hotline successfully managed 75,065 calls, which is equivalent to an average of 3,951 calls per day. The majority of the calls are from individuals requesting general information on COVID-19 (98%).

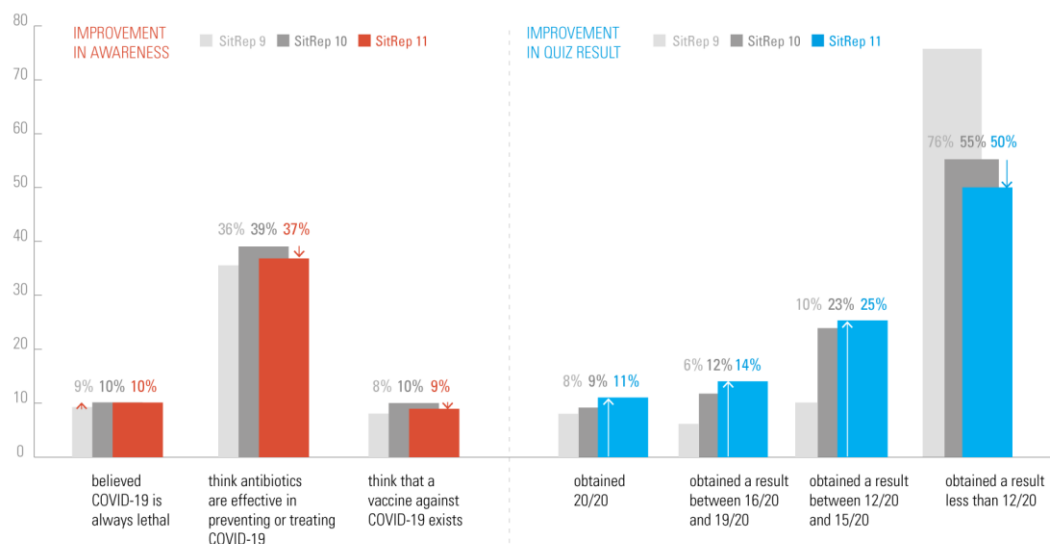


2) U-Report platform

- **Through its automated bot:** 5,598 people asked and received appropriate information on COVID-19 statistics, symptoms, spread mechanism, how to protect themselves and how to protect others, and myths.
- **Through its SMS center:** 8,060 questions were received and answered. Over half of questions were about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and how to protect oneself from the disease. 36% of the questions were about the progression of the epidemic in DRC and in the rest of the world, and the measures taken by the government.



- **Through the COVID-19 quiz:** Compared to the results of the previous quiz, there was no significant change in awareness about COVID-19. For instance, 10% of people believed that COVID-19 is always lethal, against the same percentage in the previous quiz, 37% believed that antibiotics are effective in preventing or treating COVID-19 against 39% in the previous SitRep, and 9% think that a vaccine against COVID-19 exists, compared to 10% in the previous SitRep. However, an overall improvement in the quiz scoring (results) was recorded.



- **Through sending key messages:** 476,254 people received at least one key message such as “*understand the risk and allow yourself time and space to express your feelings about what happened. Be patient with your emotional state, as it is normal to experience mood fluctuations*” or “*take steps to get the facts, stay up to date on what is happening, while limiting your media exposure. Avoid watching or listening to news reports 24/7 since this tends to increase anxiety and worry*”

3) Mass media communication: 341 radio stations and 65 TV channels have broadcast messages on COVID-19 in the 14 affected provinces. More than 29 million people were reached with key messages on how to prevent COVID-19 through mass media channels. 91 media professionals were trained on prevention measures and warning signs of COVID-19.

Highlights from the provinces

In Kinshasa and in the 12 affected provinces, 4,471 Community Relays, 761 health workers were trained on prevention measures and warning signs of COVID-19 by UNICEF. They have consequently worked to raise awareness about COVID-19 in 18 provinces, reached 876,778 people, tracked 1,112 contact cases and reported 1,319 suspicious case alerts.

In North Kivu, in partnership with the North Kivu Media Network (REMEDI), UNICEF supported the production and dissemination of 60 “Echos on COVID-19 and Essential Family Practices” special newspapers, 480 magazines and 2,100 radio spots that targeted more than 1 million listeners of 60 partner radios. In partnership with the Provincial Division of Communication and Media of North Kivu, UNICEF trained 233 presidents of the Development Health Committees (CODESA) and 118 actors of local associations in North Kivu on prevention measures against COVID 19, key family practices and community-based surveillance.

In Tanganyika, the risk communication and community engagement team conducted an advocacy session with the mayor of Kalemie to mobilize the heads of avenues/neighbourhoods to support the response against COVID-19 in their areas. 311 children received information on prevention measures against COVID-19.

In Tshopo and Bas Uele, the Provincial Health Divisions, the Provincial Youth Divisions and the members of the Communication Task Force, in partnership with UNICEF, have raised the awareness of 98,004 people on prevention of COVID-19 and other diseases. The people reached were members of youth associations, the DRC Red Cross, women's associations, civil society organizations and religious groups.

In Equateur, where there are currently more than 40 cases of Ebola, the risk communication and community engagement team reached 393,203 people with COVID-19 and Ebola prevention messages, including 569 social leaders from religious groups, local associations, local authorities. 26 new local radio stations have signed a partnership contract with UNICEF to continue broadcast spots, songs, interactive question-and-answer programs on the prevention of Ebola and COVID-19. The association “Movement of Young Adolescents” have also helped conduct activities promoting measures against Ebola and COVID-19 and have reached 937 people in the Wangata Health Zone.



Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)/Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH)

UNICEF has provided critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services to 450,424 people in the 14 affected provinces, provided 191 healthcare workers within health facilities and Community Relays with personal protective equipment, and trained 250 healthcare workers within health facilities and community health

workers on infection prevention and control in the context of COVID-19. In addition, 49 health facilities were provided with essential WASH services.

Highlights from the provinces

UNICEF continued to monitor the number of people using the handwashing stations strategically placed in public places (entry points, markets, taxi ranks, etc) across the country: 44,365 people in Kinshasa, 201,529 people in Lubumbashi and Kasumbalesa, Haut Katanga, 1,789 people in Kinsangani, Thsopo, 25,964 people in Kongo Central.

Other key WASH activities included:

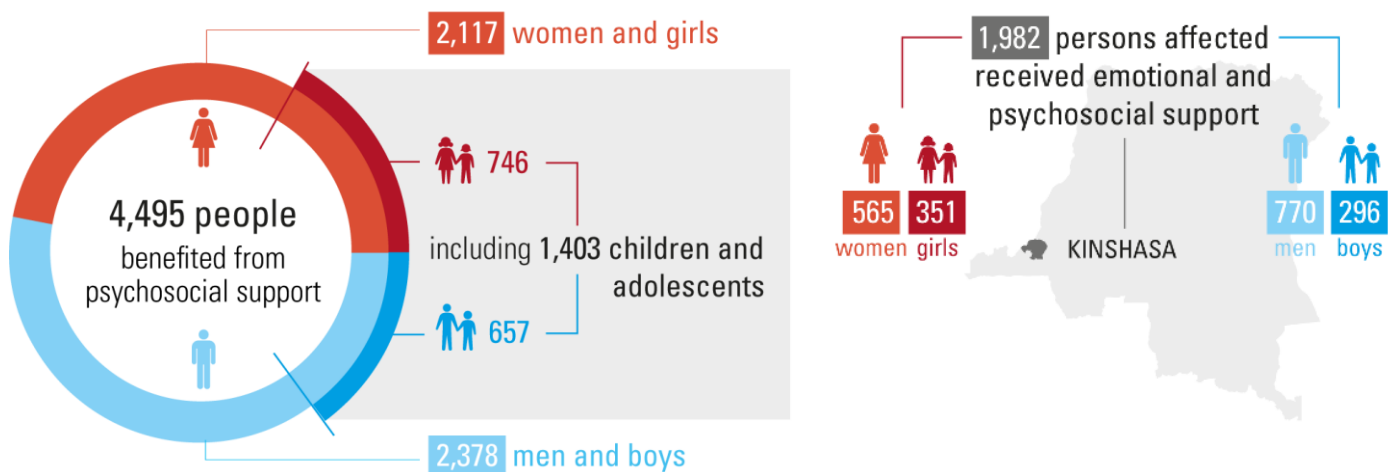
- 50,000 liters of water were supplied to the 2 hospitals, 8 new handwashing stations setup in Kinshasa;
- 1 borehole equipped with solar pump with distribution ramp for 5 taps in Katanga;
- 225kgs of chlorine were donated to the South Kivu Department of Health for decontamination purposes
- construction of a borehole and hand washing stations at the Bunia market, Ituri;
- training of 150 members of transport associations trained on prevention measures of Ebola and COVID-19 in North Kivu;
- Training of 32,413 people including 11 community leaders on prevention measures of Ebola and COVID-19 in Kalunguta, Komanda, Beni and Oicha health zones, North Kivu.



Psychosocial Support and Child Protection

During the reporting period, an increased number of adults and particularly children benefited from psychosocial support provided by UNICEF and the Psychosocial Commission:

- 4,495 people including 3,092 adults (1,371 women) and 1,403 children (746 girls) received a psychosocial support as part of the COVID-19 response. Of these, 1,982 people (770 men, 565 women, 296 boys and 351 girls) in Kinshasa alone (the hotspot epidemic);



- 610 frontline medical staffs and caregivers also received psychosocial support to cope with the negative impact they may face during their professional activities. Kinshasa remain the main epidemic hotspot. 1,982 persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic (770 men, 565 women, 296 boys and 351 girls) received emotional and psychosocial support.

During the reporting period, 312 children (including 234 girls), who are victims of violence, including gender-based violence, abuse, neglect or living outside of a family setting, were identified and benefited from assistance.

97 people (including 39 women and girls) were able to access to a safe channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse.

Regarding the situation of children deprived of liberty, 182 children (including 27 girls) were released from detention centres during the reporting period.

Highlights from the provinces

In Kinshasa, para social workers supported by UNICEF identified 274 children (including 130 girls) affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The children and/or their households received a combination of the following interventions; placement into temporary care, medical treatment, emotional and psychosocial support, food assistance and hygienic kits. In addition, para social workers provided social assistance to 78 vulnerable households (including 229 children, of which 98 girls).

In Kasai Central, 456 adults (including 292 women) and 3683 children (including 1664 girls) received child protection COVID-19 awareness messages from social workers working with UNICEF's partners.



Health and Nutrition

To ensure continuity of health services – and especially routine vaccination – UNICEF provided the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) with a batch of 1,390 Android smartphones and internet subscription kits to monitor the performance of routine immunization in the country. Through these smartphones, connected to a server at the central level, the EPI will be able to monitor five essential indicators for the achievement of results, namely, the availability and functionality of the cold chain, the availability of vaccines, the respect of the minimum number of immunization sessions, the supervision of health areas by the Provincial Health Division team and the supervision of health areas by the Health Zone team.

Following the increase in the number of provinces affected by COVID 19, UNICEF has supported PRONANUT to integrate nutritional care interventions for patients suffering from COVID 19 in all the 14 affected provinces.

Highlights from the provinces

In Bas Huele, UNICEF donated medical equipment and medicines including 3 emergency obstetric kits, 40 small surgery kits, 3 basic resuscitation kits, 5,000 examination and surgical gloves, antimalarial drugs, antibiotics, filling solutions, intestinal antiparasitic drugs, nutritional inputs, etc. to the Watsa health zone.

In Haut Katanga, UNICEF delivered equipment to the COVID-19 treatment centre in Kasumbalesa with 8 tents for a capacity of 33 beds with full bedding, 33 tables and 33 chairs for patients.

UNICEF trained 36 medical staff of 18 health zones in Kasai Central and 20 medical staff from the Kisantu General Hospital in Kongo Central on the care and treatment of COVID-19 patients.

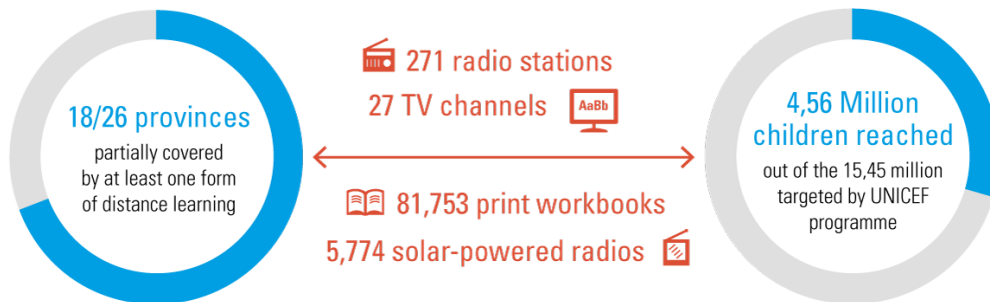
In Kasai Central, 27,121 caregivers of children under 24 months received counselling on infant and young child feeding in the context of COVID-19 in 5 health zones. 184 children aged 6-59 months suffering from severe acute malnutrition were admitted and treated in 5 health zones.

To ensure continuity of healthcare services during the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF delivered 40 measles treatment kits to 14 Health Zones in Kwango.



Education

18 out of 26 provinces are partially covered by at least one form of distance education through 271 radio stations and 27 television channels, reaching more than 4,558,523 million children and adolescents. An additional 72,180 print workbooks were distributed, bringing the total of distribute workbooks in 7 provinces to 81,753. So far, a total of 5,774 solar-powered radios were distributed to children of vulnerable households in 13 provinces to allow them to follow distance learning classes.



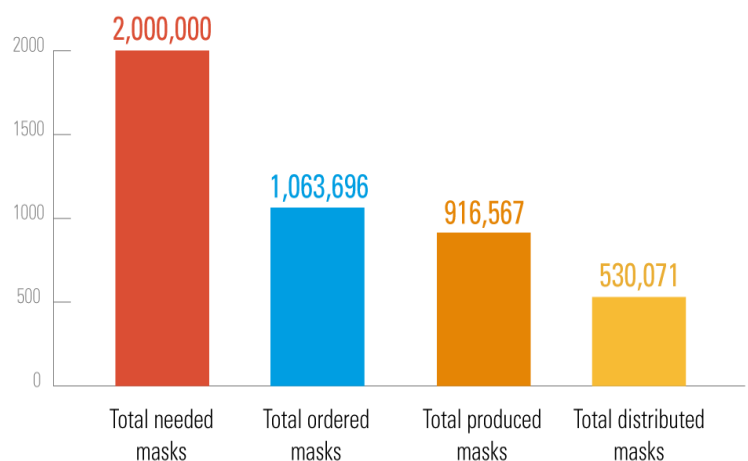
Funding Overview

UNICEF estimates that US\$ 58 million is required for an immediate response within its areas of responsibility. UNICEF has advanced US\$ 9 million from its own resources to meet critical needs until additional funding is secured. As of 08 July 2020, UNICEF has received \$20,9 million (35% of total needs) thanks to GAVI, Global Partnership for Education (GPE), The Republic of Malta, The Solidarity Response Fund, The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), The Government of the Kingdom of Sweden, The Government of Canada, The Government of the United Kingdom and The Government of Germany. Advanced discussions are ongoing with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the World Bank Group. More than ever, UNICEF needs flexible and timely funding to meet the most critical needs as the epidemic evolves. The UNICEF Representative in DRC has also appealed for in-kind donations.



UNICEF’s “Masks Made in DRC” initiative

Through the “Masks made in DRC” initiative, UNICEF has commissioned some NGOs and women's associations to manufacture locally one million reusable non-medical protective masks for children and adults. The enthusiasm for the production of these masks has prompted UNICEF to increase production 2 million masks. 916,567 masks have already been produced and 530,071 masks have been distributed to the most disadvantaged communities in the provinces most affected by COVID-19. 423,000 masks will be distributed to primary and secondary teachers for them to use when the school term will begin later in the year.





External Media

1) SOCIAL MEDIA AND ONLINE

Since the beginning of the outbreak, the communication team posted more than 490 messages on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) – reaching almost 110 million people. During the reporting period, a blogpost written by a Child Reporter was published on the [COVID-19 landing page](#), highlighting the [impact of the state of emergency on children's rights](#).

New multimedia material was uploaded on [WeShare](#).

2) UNICEF DRC PRESS RELEASES

- [COVID-19: EU Humanitarian Air Bridge helps deliver over 50 tonnes of UNICEF supplies for vulnerable children and families](#)
- [The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and UNICEF provide 1,390 Android phones for monitoring routine immunization performance](#)

3) SELECTION OF COVID-19 RELATED PRESS COVERAGE MENTIONING UNICEF

- [La RDC compte 5,5 millions des déplacés et plus de 25,6 millions de personnes en besoin d'assistance humanitaire](#)
- [DR Congo: eastern Ebola outbreak defeated, 'mission impossible' now a 'sign of hope'](#)
- [Enseignement à distance en RDC en temps de pandémie de COVID-19: Leure ou réalité?](#)
- [Covid-19 : du matériel de l'UNICEF pour les enfants et les familles vulnérables](#)

UNICEF Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Global Appeal:

<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/covid-19/donate>

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Annex A: Summary of Response Results

Sector	UNICEF and IPs Response		Change since last report ▲ ▼
	Target	Total result (cumulative)	
Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)			
Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services	40,000,000	26,398,824	5%
Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through established feedback mechanism.	1,000,000	542,080	17%
Number of influencers engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions	500,000	161,982	3%
Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)			
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	2,142,790	1,615,968	38%
Number of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with PPE	9,643*	1,114	20%
Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in IPC	9,643*	4,452	6%
Number of health facilities provided with essential WASH services	357	233	6%
Child Protection and Psychosocial Support			
Number of children who are victims of violence, including GBV, abuse, neglect or living outside of a family setting that are identified and receiving care in areas affected by COVID-19	10,500*	1,320	30%
Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support	169,000*	27,490	23%
Number of children and adults that have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse	152,643	25,814	0.4%
Health			
Number of children and women receiving essential healthcare services in UNICEF supported facilities	3,390,646	1,076,787	0%
Nutrition			
Number of caregivers of children (0-23 months) reached with messages on breastfeeding in the context of COVID-19	412,365	148,521	22%
Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM)	54,061	16,581	1%
Education			
Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning	15,450,000	4,558,523	1%
Number of distributed educational homework booklets to ensure continuity of children and adolescent's learning	2,500,000	77,399	136%

*Targets have been revised since the last SitRep