



COVID-19
Situation Report #9
29 May-10 June 2020

Highlights

- **4.4 million children have access to distance learning** thanks to partnerships with 268 radio stations and 20 TV channels
- **More than 19 million people** reached with key messages on how to prevent COVID-19
- **29,870 calls** managed by the COVID-19 Hotline
- **4,338 people** (including 811 children) affected by COVID-19 and 837 frontline workers provided with **psychosocial support**
- More than **200,000 community masks** distributed

COVID-19 overview

(as of 10 June 2020)

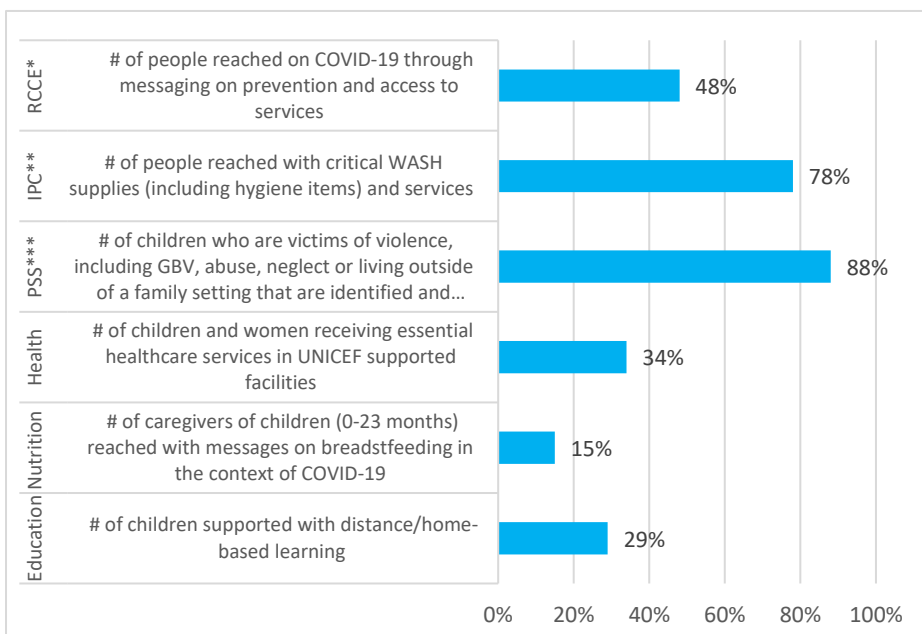


2.3% Fatality Rate

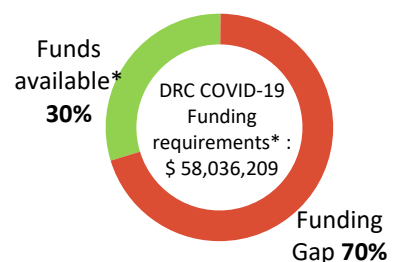
392 new samples tested

Kinshasa recorded 88.8% (3,980) of all confirmed cases. Other affected provinces including # of cases are: **North Kivu** (35) **South Kivu** (89) **Ituri** (2) **Kongo Central** (221) **Haut Katanga** (38) **Kwilu** (2) **Kwango** (1) **Haut Lomami** (1) **Tshopo** (1) **Equateur** (1)

UNICEF's COVID-19 Response



DRC COVID-19 Response Funding Status



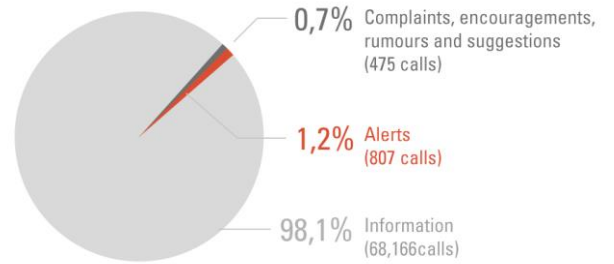
*Funds available include 9 million USD UNICEF regular resources allocated by the office for first response needs.

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



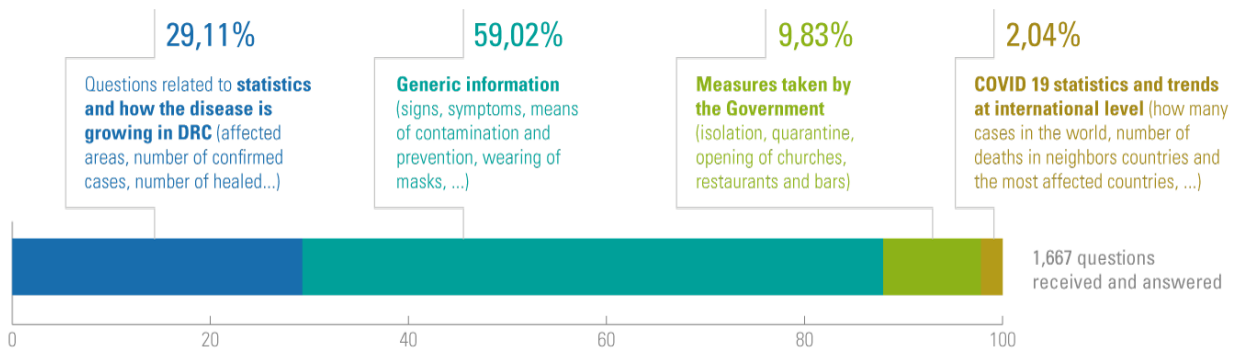
Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

1) COVID-19 Hotline: Compared to the previous SitRep (28 May) the Hotline has experienced a slight increase (4%) in the number of calls successfully managed. During the reporting period, the Hotline was successfully managing an average of 4,700 calls per day. The majority of the calls are from individuals requesting general information on COVID-19. The composition of the calls is shown in the [graph on the right](#).

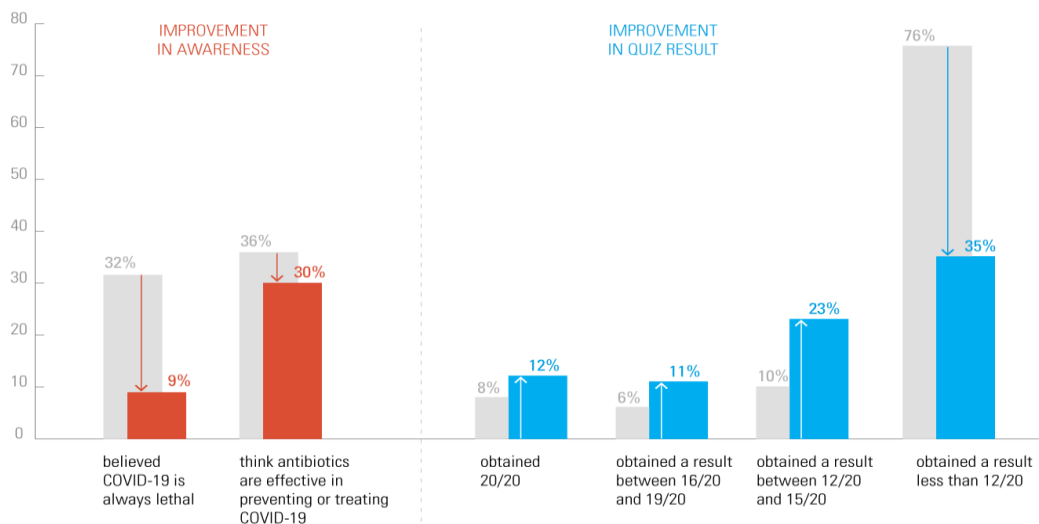


2) U-Report platform

- **through its automated bot:** 3,820 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:** 1,667 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. The remainder of 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 a great improvement in awareness about COVID-19 (i.e. less people believed that COVID-19 is always lethal and that antibiotics are effective in preventing or treating COVID-19).



3) Mass media communication: 253 radio stations and 60 TV channels have broadcast messages on COVID-19 in the most affected provinces (Kinshasa, Kongo Central, Kwilu, Kwango, Maitombe, North Kivu, Tshopo, Bas Uele, Haut Katanga, Haut Lomami, Tanganyika, Lualaba and Ituri). More than 22 million people were reached with key messages on how to prevent COVID-19 through mass media channels.

Highlights from the provinces

In Kinshasa and in the affected provinces (South Kivu, Maniema, Kongo Central, Kwilu, Kwango, Maitombe, Tshopo, Haut Katanga, Haut Lomami, Tanganyika, and Lualaba), 5,367 Community Relays, 417 health workers were trained on prevention measures and warning signs of COVID-19 by UNICEF. They raised awareness of 484,882 people, tracked 547 contacts and reported 269 suspicious case alerts.

In 30 Health Zones of Kinshasa, 320 banners with a message on COVID-19 are being placed in public places such as Kintambo Magazin, Socimat, Crossroad between Ngaliema Clinic and Pullman Hotel, Pullman Hotel, Place des Évolués, Central Station, National Institute of Biomedical Research (INRB), Palais du Peuple.

In Mbandaka, Equateur province, where on 1 June a new Ebola epidemic was declared, the community engagement and risk communication team is responding to COVID-19 and Ebola at the same time. For example, while promoting Ebola vaccination, the team also promotes social distancing and the importance of wearing masks.



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

UNICEF is gradually scaling up its infection prevention and control activities across the country. During the reporting period, UNICEF provided critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services to 367,986 people in the 7 affected provinces, provided 280 healthcare workers within health facilities and Community Relays with personal protective equipment, trained 710 healthcare workers within health facilities and community health workers on infection prevention and control in the context of COVID-19. In addition, 24 health facilities were provided with essential WASH services.

Highlights from the provinces

UNICEF, in collaboration with its implementing partners and the Health Divisions in the various provinces of the country, has trained hygiene promoters and health workers in infection prevention and control and raised awareness among the general population on preventing COVID-19 infection. The recipients of these activities were:

- 408 hygiene promoters in Kinshasa; 42 in Kwilu, 220 in Kongo Central
- 40 health workers in Kinshasa
- 2,573 community members in Kwango.

UNICEF is also strengthening infection prevention and control among communities in the most affected provinces through hygiene promotion. Activities are being implemented at community level in markets, hospitals, checkpoints and others public spaces:

- 152,605 liters of water were supplied for public hand washing to checkpoints in Beni, North Kivu;
- 59,000 liters of water supplied to the 2 main checkpoints of Matadi city, Kongo Central;
- 45 hand washing stations in public spaces in Kwilu;
- 19 additional hand washing stations in public spaces in Kinshasa;
- WASH hygiene items were provided to the Provincial Health Division (100 pairs of household gloves, 20 drums of chlorine, 100 pairs of boots, 33 sprayers and 25 waterproof overalls) in Kasai Oriental;

- A 1,000-litre water tank with taps (for public hand washing) was installed at market in Kahemba, Kwango;
- 3 markets and 5 hospitals were decontaminated Bukavu, South Kivu;
- 752 households impacted by recent floods in Uvira, South Kivu received WASH kits (each kit contains 1 handwashing station, a 20-litre bucket of water, 800g of soap, 20 water treatment packets, 1 hygienic menstrual kit).



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:

- 4,338 people of which 2,044 women and girls and including 811 children and adolescents (395 girls) received a psychosocial support as part of the COVID-19 response;
- 837 frontline medical staffs and caregivers also received psychosocial support to cope with the negative impact they may face during their professional activities.

Social workers supported by UNICEF visited 64 vulnerable household, in which 75 children (46 boys and 29 girls) have been identified. These will be provided with assistance that includes psycho-social support, medical care, educational support, socio-economic reintegration, temporary assistance in transit centers and/or families foster care.

A total 12 psychologists and 15 social workers have been deployed in the health centres and hospitals in charge of treatment of COVID-19 cases.

25 children (19 boys and 4 girls) living in the street have been placed for transitional care in the two emergency centres supported by UNICEF in Kinshasa while, family tracing or research for long term solution is ongoing.

Finally, UNICEF and the Child Protection s/cluster finalized contextualized guidelines and advocacy note on children deprived of liberty in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The note is addressed to the national government as well as the provincial governments of the DRC, the magistrates, the Congolese National Police and Armed Forces and child protection actors.

Highlights from the provinces

In Kongo Central, 20 child protection actors were trained on child protection case management related to COVID-19 by the Division of Social Affairs (DIVAS).

In Kwilu and Kwango and since the start of the implementation of COVID-19 preventive measures, there has been an upsurge in sexual violence cases with 255 children (252 girls and 3 boys) identified and supported in health facilities.



Health and Nutrition

UNICEF has set up a working group made up by members of the Nutrition Cluster and the National Programme on Nutrition (PRONANUT) to analyse the impact of COVID-19 on the supplementary feeding of children aged 6 to 23 months and on the nutritional situation in general. The aim is to identify gaps and adapt the response to nutrition in the context of COVID-19.

Highlights from the provinces

UNICEF and its partners are continuing communication activities on adequate nutritional practices and the treatment of severe acute malnutrition in health facilities, taking into account infection prevention and control measures. During the reporting period, the following results were achieved:

- 7,305 pregnant and breastfeeding women and caregivers were reached with awareness-raising information on infant and young child feeding in emergency situations during growth promotion and monitoring sessions and antenatal consultations in health centres in 3 Health Zones of Bukavu, South Kivu.
- 140 community health workers held twice weekly awareness raising sessions to raise awareness on adequate feeding practices in the Kabondo Health Zone, Tshopo.
- 27,826 caretakers of children under 24 months received advice on adequate infant and young child feeding in the context of COVID-19 in 22 Health Zones of Kasai Central and Kasai.
- 2,745 children aged 6-59 months suffering from severe acute malnutrition were newly admitted and treated in health facilities in 24 health zones of Kasai Central and Kasai.

In Tshopo, UNICEF has provided the Provincial Health Department with 2 delivery beds, 7 patients beds, 14 kits to test water that will be delivered to the Health Zones of Kabondo and Bengamisa. UNICEF has also provided 170 health centres with 1,020 masks, 680 packets of gloves, 1,360 hydroalcoholic gels as well as goggles, boots and chlorine sprayers. In Mbuji Mayi, Kasai Oriental, two oxygen concentrators were officially handed over to the Dipumba COVID-19 treatment centre.

In Equateur Province, where a new Ebola outbreak has been detected, UNICEF is providing technical support to the provincial government and all partners involved in a joint COVID-19 and Ebola response.

UNICEF is supporting a cholera vaccination campaign in the context of COVID-19 in North Kivu, which aims to vaccinate 500,000 people. In this context, UNICEF is providing cholera kits to 8 Health Zones for the treatment of cholera cases, distributing water purification tablets, installing handwashing stations, and distributing infrared thermometers in all vaccination sites.

UNICEF, through its implementing partners, in 10 disease monitoring sites within health centres in South Kivu, has: trained 20 healthworkers on infection prevention and control; distributed single use masks to 350 Chief Nurses and reusable masks to 930 Community Relays; distributed 35 pieces of personal protective equipment, 35 boxes of disposable gloves and 35 infrared thermometers.



Education

18 out of 26 provinces are partially covered by at least one form of distance education through 268 radio stations and 20 television channels, reaching more than 4,492,371 million children and adolescents. 21,647 print workbooks were distributed so far in Haut-Katanga, Ituri, and Kasai Oriental. More than 1,000 solar-powered radios were distributed to children of vulnerable households in Mbandaka to allow them to follow distance learning classes.



Supply and Logistics

Despite worldwide airport closures, UNICEF has been able to regularly receive shipments of materials key to the response to COVID-19. On 9 June UNICEF has received a shipment of 3.7 cubic metres of vital health supplies in Goma. The shipment includes resuscitation kits, basic surgical equipment, nasal cannulas for the delivery of oxygen, hydrocortisone, antibiotics, vitamin A, and nutrition support. The supplies will be distributed to health centres and hospitals treating COVID-19 patients in eastern DRC.



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 10 June 2020, UNICEF has received \$18,7 million (30% 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 and The Government of the United Kingdom. Advanced discussions are ongoing with the Switzerland 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. More than 200,000 masks have already been distributed to the most disadvantaged communities in the provinces most affected by COVID-19. 400,000 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 380 messages on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) – reaching more than 73 million people. During the reporting period, several posts highlighted [UNICEF's psychosocial support to coronavirus patients](#) and how [UNICEF is working with partners to children learning](#). The [COVID-19 landing page](#) is updated on a regular basis and has been consulted more than 27,000 times and allowed visitors to consult other relevant pages on the website, including guidance for [children](#) and [families](#). New multimedia material was uploaded on [WeShare](#).

2) UNICEF DRC PRESS RELEASES

- [UNICEF receives vital supplies to fight COVID-19 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with support from the European Union](#)
- [Fédération des Entreprises du Congo supports UNICEF in the fight against coronavirus](#)
- [Ebola resurfaces in Équateur Province, north-western Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

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

- **RDC : soutien de l'UNICEF pour la lutte contre l'épidémie d'Ebola** <https://www.lecourrier.vn/rdc-soutien-de-lunicef-pour-la-lutte-contre-lepidemie-debola/779856.html>
- **Covid-19 : l'UE organise un vol humanitaire des fournitures sanitaires** <http://www.adiac-congo.com/content/covid-19-lue-organise-un-vol-humanitaire-des-fournitures-sanitaires-116709>
- **Five dead in newest Ebola outbreak in Congo, UNICEF says** <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/06/01/health/ebola-outbreak-congo-intl/index.html>
- **Race against the clock': How the Covid-19 pandemic threatens to undermine DRC's response to latest Ebola outbreak** <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/coronavirus-ebola-outbreak-congo-latest-news-deaths-a9545996.html#gsc.tab=0>
- **Women hit as Congo faces triple threat of coronavirus, Ebola and measles** <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-drc-women-trfn/women-hit-as-congo-faces-triple-threat-of-coronavirus-ebola-and-measles-idUSKBN23C1KA>
- **In the news: New Ebola outbreak in northwestern Congo** <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2020/06/02/Ebola-outbreak-Congo-Mbandaka-measles-coronavirus>
- **New Ebola Outbreak in Congo, Already Hit by Measles and Coronavirus** <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/01/world/africa/ebola-outbreak-congo.html>
- **Congo now faces 2nd Ebola outbreak in northern province** <https://apnews.com/777b7b955351255985cd89b2a0ee7285>
- **New Ebola Cases Found in Congo** <https://www.wsj.com/articles/new-ebola-cases-found-in-congo-11591023051>
- **DRC hit by second Ebola outbreak amid COVID-19 battle** <https://www.sabcnews.com/sabcnews/drc-hit-by-second-ebola-outbreak-amid-covid-19-battle/>
- **DRC Ebola Outbreak: Chantal Umutoni, Senior Public Health Adviser** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RgqeH9-EFI>

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		
	Target	Total result (cumulative)	Change since last report ▲ ▼
Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)			
Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services	40,000,000	19,100,109	3%
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	355,578	10%
Number of influencers engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions	500,000	144,292	4%
Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)			
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	892,829	698,070	78%
Number of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with PPE	9,643	663	7%
Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in IPC	9,643	2,918	30%
Number of health facilities provided with essential WASH services	357	127	36%
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	600	760	43%
Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support	14,700	13,187	49%
Number of children and adults that have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse	152,643	44	91%
Health			
Number of children and women receiving essential healthcare services in UNICEF supported facilities	2,776,339	949,725	192%
Nutrition			
Number of caregivers of children (0-23 months) reached with messages on breastfeeding in the context of COVID-19	412,365	59,948	12%
Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM)	54,061	15,845	22%
Education			
Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning	15,450,000	4,492,371	18%
Number of distributed educational homework booklets to ensure continuity of children and adolescent's learning	2,500,000	27,450	100%