

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

- 2,773 cases reported; 126 deaths (lethality of 4,5 per cent).
- The most affected region is Bamako (49,2 per cent of the total confirmed cases) followed by the regions of Timbuktu (20,6 per cent) Mopti (9.1 per cent) and Koulikoro (7.6 per cent)
- Teachers in public schools are still on strike. The DEF (Diplome d’Etude Fondamentale) and BAC (Bacalauréat) exams scheduled for September have been postponed to a later date.
- Land and air borders were closed with member’s countries of ECOWAS; a sanction imposed by ECOWAS following the seizure of power by the Malian military forces on 18 august 2020.

Situation in Numbers



2,773 COVID-19 confirmed cases
2,169 recovered
126 deaths



3,8 M Children affected by COVID-19 school closures

Some features



51

Sanitary corridors supported



2,919

Health workers trained on prevention and control of COVID-19



204

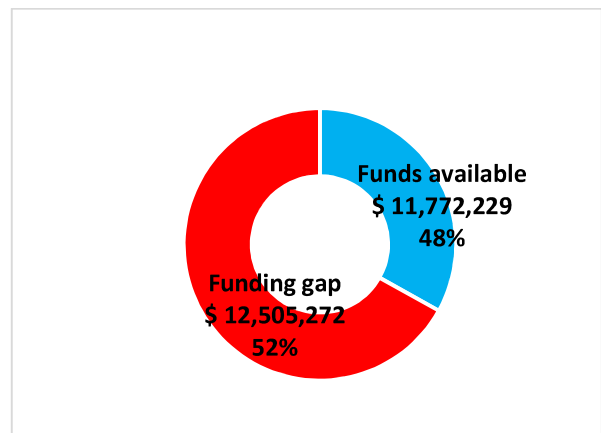
Community Radios engaged for sensitization on COVID-19



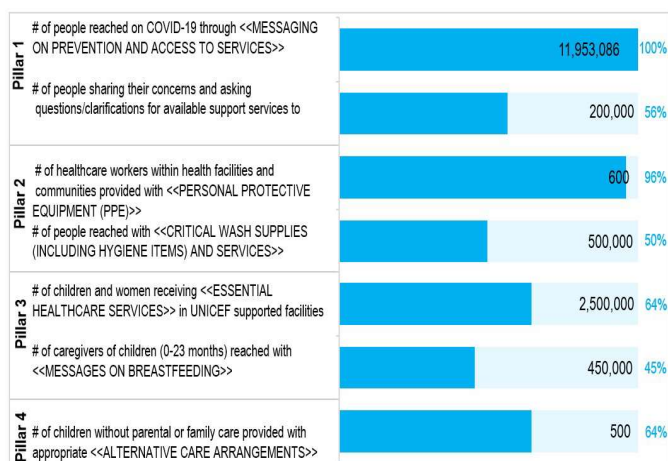
1,653

Hand washing kits supplied to sanitary corridors

Funding Situation



UNICEF's COVID-19 Response



Health and Nutrition

One of UNICEF's strategies in the health sector is to ensure the continuity of quality health services to vulnerable populations and children and to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on health structures and services. In this line, in addition to the 2,919 health workers trained on prevention and response to COVID-19 since the beginning of the response, UNICEF provided to the National Institute of Public Health (INSP) 15,000 COVID-19 screening tests and a batch of material and equipment (surgical masks, personal protective equipment, hand washing dispositive, hand sanitizers, gloves, and four oxygen concentrators) for the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Ségou and Timbuktu.

Thanks to the drugs and materials provided by UNICEF to the districts, 46,412 patients benefited curative care, including 37,130 adults (15,295 men and 21,835 women) and 9,282 children 0-5 years (6,020 boys and 3,222 girls). In terms of disease surveillance over the past two weeks, 10 cases of measles have been notified in Timbuktu region, and 11,582 children were vaccinated. In Sikasso, 4 cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP), 2 suspect cases of yellow fever and one case of Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus (TMN) were recorded.

In August, nutrition activities adapted to the context of COVID-19 continued. The probable indirect impacts of COVID-19 on malnutrition are linked in particular to changes in (1) the food security situation, impacted by price increases and consequently decreases in household income, (2) to healthcare practices that can

be challenged by negative coping strategies, and (3) access to and demand for health services. Likewise, the current socio-political crisis causing a severe socio-economic crisis is an additional factor contributing to increase the vulnerability of the populations.

Activities carried out in response to the humanitarian needs adapted to the COVID-19 context are among others, the following:

- A workshop to review key messages for the prevention of acute malnutrition was carried out under the leadership of the nutrition sub-directorate. This workshop was useful to establish new visual messages, radios and clips, aimed at strengthening good nutrition practices in the context of COVID and improving access and demand for services.

- National Anthropometric Nutritional and Mortality Retrospective Survey using the SMART methodology (Specific, Measurable, Ambitious, Realistic and Temporal) and SIAB (Week of Intensification of Nutrition Activities) readiness activities in the context of COVID-19 continue. For the SMART survey, a guide to adaptation in the COVID-19 context has been drafted and will serve as a reference document for other types of survey.

During the reporting period 25,008 children were treated for acute malnutrition, including 12,223 for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 12,785 for severe acute malnutrition (SAM), (weekly PCIMA reports).

Highlights from the regions

UNICEF supported the capacity building of 120 persons of secondary school's management committees on their roles and responsibilities with a focus on COVID-19 prevention in Kayes region. In Gao and Ségou, daily monitoring, water supply and supervision by the COVID-19 regional response team was provided in 14 sanitary belts.

WASH

In eight regions (Mopti, Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal, Menaka, Sikasso, Kayes and Bamako) UNICEF provided hygiene promotion materials (15,750 tons of chlorine, 47,084 pieces of soap) to 279 health care facilities, 216 schools and to the communities for 41,461 households (248,768 people: 66,048 women and 65,799 men; 58,585 girls and 58,336 boys). Among them, 11,075 households composed of Internally Displaced persons and 8,364 of them benefited to safe water through water trucking (50,184 persons: 13,324 women, 13,274 men; 11,818 girls and 11,768 boys). As part of the efforts for the protection of health personnel and ensure continuity of services in health care centers, personal protective material has been distributed in four regions (Gao, Menaka, Sikasso and Bamako) for a total of 576 people working in communities and health centers. Also 4,309 health and community workers have been trained on Infection Prevention and Control measures. UNICEF continued to support at sub national level the provision of materials (1,577 hand washing devices, soap, 124 plastic slabs for emergency latrines, 16 tarpaulins and 59 tents) in six treatments centers (Bamako, Mopti, Timbuktu, Gao, Kayes and Sikasso). Furthermore, 43,355 people (11,511 women, 11,467 men, 10,210 girls and 10,167 boys) were sensitized on the key messages and actions for the prevention and control of the COVID-19; about 1,932 of them are living on Internally displaced persons sites in Mopti and Gao regions.

Highlights from the regions

UNICEF is contributing in the implementation of the preventions measures to reduce the spreading of the pandemic in 51 sites of sanitary belt set by Authorities with the provision of 30m³ of water per day in six regions (Mopti, Timbuktu, Kidal, Gao, Menaka and Sikasso).

Education

UNICEF's activities in the Education sector focused on preparing exam classes and the reopening of schools for the new school year. In this regard, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education in the planning for the dissemination of educational materials and in the distribution of protocols, posters, prevention and control materials (masks, WASH kits, thermo flash) to

make sure schools are safe to reopening in the context of COVID-19.

14 protection messages have been developed in collaboration with the pedagogical committee and are being recorded in multiple languages by the media Studio Tamani to broad distribution through radio for the benefit of children, parents, students, teachers and protection practitioners in Mali. Training on recording, broadcasting content and monitoring of programmes have been provided for pedagogical counsellor and radio agents.

Despite the difficult circumstances, it has been possible to secure access to continued learning for the most vulnerable children in Gao. Community learning centers with 25 learners per center, have received distance or homebased learning materials to uphold the COVID-19 restrictions, thus reaching 1,200 children in Gao region alone.

At cluster level, the development of the guide for reopening of schools in Mali will finalize soon and waiting for the comments from the cluster members are sharing their last comments.

Highlights from the regions

In Gao 1,200 children have received distance/homebased learning and 105 schools have implemented the COVID-19 Prevention Protocol for schools.

400 awareness posters against COVID-19 for the reopened schools have been produced in the Mopti region.

In Segou and Mopti 1,500 solar radios have been delivered to the NGO partner EDUCO (The Education and Cooperation Foundation) for courses via radio as part of the implementation of the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) COVID-19 project.

In Timbuktu, installation of handwashing kits in schools and distribution of individual protection kits (hydrological gel, mask, soap) to students are being planned, as well as preparative for the distribution of school Kits (bags and tools such as notebooks, pens, slates) to students.

RCCE/C4D

At the end of August 2020, UNICEF and its partners supporting the Risk Communication and Community Engagement pillar (RCCE) continued to contribute to

the Government's response plan through activities and strategies below:

Seven communication supports (three videos spots and four flipcharts) developed on COVID-19 protection preventive messages were broadcasted using 18 outdoor screens located in the most populated places aiming to increase awareness and adoption of key recommended behaviors.

In view of the resumption of commercial flights, 3D videos set in four languages (including French) were developed, aiming to promote adequate behaviors for travelers during boarding, flight and arrival of passengers. This includes medallion message for deaf mute person and an English version.

UNICEF provided 18,000 communication media (posters and placards) to be distributed in eight regions through the Centre National d'Information, d'Education et de Communication pour la Santé (CNEICS) and most to the high-risk regions.

Along the Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice (KAP) study implemented through the NGO AKVO, the first findings show that:

- 56.3% of interviewed people heard at least one message from the social mobilizers deployed in the ground. Among them, 78.7% can spell at least two symptoms and 58.4% know at least two mode of contamination (60,6% of Men who responded and 55.1% of Women who responded).
- 66.1% of the interviewed person are convinced that the COVID -19 is a reality in Mali with (65% of women who responded and 66.8% of men who responded).

U-Report Platform

During the regional breastfeeding week "stronger with exclusive Breastfeeding", a U-report survey have been launched. 3,409 Malian U-reporters among which 1,023 women and 2,059 man responded. 47% of all respondents were young people (20-24 years old). Overall, 74% of respondents received information on breastfeeding practices during COVID-19 and through various source of information including medias.

For more information, see <https://mali.ureport.in/opinions/>

Highlights from the regions

In line with the implementation of the Operation "Coup de Poing" in Timbuktu region, a master training for 15 trainers from Tombouctou and Taoudénit districts had been launched. This training of Master trainers aims the following points: 1) make the participants understand the Terms of Reference and the timeline of the "Coup de poing" campaign; 2) make them aware along with its technical guide for messages diffusion- 3) share of the findings of the Timbuktu KAP study with the community aiming to help operational level to use recent data and adjust strategies, plans and messages for identifying and addressing issues in the most at-risk areas in the region.

Child protection

As of August 2020, UNICEF and its partners COOPI (Cooperazione Internazionale) and Samu Social reached 322 children without parental care with alternative protection care including shelter, food and medical assistance in Mopti region and the district of Bamako. The assisted children include those living in the streets, the children whose parents are infected by the COVID-19 or in quarantine and other vulnerable children exposed to high risk of contamination by COVID-19, violence and other protection concerns such as child labor and stigmatization.

UNICEF and partners continued to carry out various activities to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and the exacerbation of related child protection issues. In August, 3,535 people were reached with outreach activities on COVID-19 prevention and access to child protection services in Timbuktu, Kidal and Gao.

Highlights from the regions

In August, UNICEF started the implementation of a new project in partnership with the Regional Directorate of Social Development and the Regional Directorate for the Promotion of Women, Children and Family in Kayes region, one of the COVID-19 most affected region. 120 social workers and child protection frontline workers received training on mental health and psychosocial support to children affected by the COVID-19. An evaluation of the needs of children directly and indirectly affected by COVID-19 is underway. In total this project will provide psychosocial support to 500 children affected by the COVID-19 and reach 1,524 individuals including children with awareness raising on COVID-19 and child protection matters.

External Communication

- Mali among selected countries during UNICEF HQ global campaign « **#ENDviolence and Education digital activation: Celebrating the COVID-19 Champions for Children**» through [website](#) and [social media](#).
- Publication on UNICEF HQ social media channels during global campaign of [the profile of Maya](#), 12 months supported against SAM in Timbuktu with a link on the impact of COVID-19 on essential care to children.

Coordination

UNICEF continues to actively participate in the coordination mechanisms for the response in Mali, including the Crisis Committee for Epidemic Management COVID-19 led by the National Institute of Public Health (INSP) which is responsible for the overall coordination and the management of the national response, as well as the United Nations Country Team and the Humanitarian Country Team COVID-19 Task Force which aims to coordinate and guide the work of the inter-cluster, health cluster and humanitarian coordination structures. At regional level, UNICEF, through its five field offices supports the regional state authorities and is engaged in the works of the Disaster Management Committees which are the main sub-national coordination frameworks for prevention and response against COVID-19.

UNICEF also participated every two weeks to the COVID-19 partners coordination meeting lead by USAID. The purpose of this meeting is to coordinate the implementation of activities between partners and to establish collaboration links in the field.

Adaptations to ongoing UNICEF programmes

In order to limit the spread and to meet the potential additional needs linked to the indirect impacts of the COVID-19 epidemics, nutrition activities are systematically integrated into existing campaigns, in particular the seasonal chemoprophylaxis which took place from July to October in the central and southern regions of the country, with strict compliance with the COVID-19 barrier measures. Also, nutrition interventions have been integrated into the lean season activities in collaboration with the food security cluster through common targeting in WFP programme (supplementation of women and children from vulnerable households benefiting from distributions) and an emphasis on community-level screening and prevention activities with the support of UNICEF.

Child protection partners continue to adapt their interventions to respect COVID-19 prevention measures. Thanks to a collaboration with the WASH section, UNICEF child protection partners in Segou, Mopti, Gao, Timbuktu, Menaka and the district of Bamako were equipped with hand-washing facilities.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF requires \$24,2 million to respond to the pandemics in Mali. \$11,8 million* (48 % of this requirement) has been mobilized both from internal resources and generous contributions (from the Thematic funding, The Peace Building Funds, CERF, ECW, GPE, DGIS, the French National committee and the Governments of Germany, Italy, Denmark and Luxembourg). Additional funding is being mobilized from various donors to respond effectively and efficiently to the crisis and ensure lifesaving programs for the ongoing humanitarian needs and to sustain the investments realized until now and ring-fence the results. A revised plan was developed to take into consideration short/medium and long terms needs and to link the humanitarian response to the recovery and development efforts. UNICEF is actively contributing to the UNCT Response Plan and the updated HRP for the COVID-19. UNICEF also contributed to the development of UN joint COVID-19 proposal for 1 million dollars. The proposal was submitted on August 31.

External Media

- [Press release](#) on the arrival of vital nutrition and health supplies in Mali
- [Statement](#) on the impact of COVID-19 on children's rights and related [interviews](#)
- Media [interviews](#) on UNICEF Mali response to COVID-19
- [RFI report](#) on remote learning in Mali
- Multimedia assets on [WeShare](#) and dedicated external [web page](#)
- ENDviolence and Education digital activation: Celebrating the COVID-19 Champions for Children [website and social media](#)

Summary of Programme Results

Sector	UNICEF and IPs Response	
	2020 target	Total results*
Risk Communication and Community Engagement		
Number of people reached on COVID-19 through <<MESSAGING ON PREVENTION AND ACCESS TO SERVICES>>	11,953,086	11,953,086
Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through <<RCCE ACTIONS>>	600,000	524,561
Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through established <<FEEDBACK MECHANISMS>>	200,000	112,529
WASH and IPC		
Number of people reached with <<CRITICAL WASH SUPPLIES (INCLUDING HYGIENE ITEMS) AND SERVICES>>.	500,000	247,618
Number of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with <<PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)>>	600	576
Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers <<TRAINED IN INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)>>	5,000	4,309
Number of institutions (HCF, schools, maternities, ...) supported with a minimum WASH & IPC package and demonstrating IPC improvements	10,500	788
Number of vulnerable HHs enabled to reduce risk of COVID-19 transmission through a better access to water and/or soap, and hygiene promotion	83,333	41,461
Health		
Number of healthcare providers <<TRAINED IN DETECTING, REFERRAL AND APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT>> of COVID-19 cases	4,500	2,919
Number of children and women receiving <<ESSENTIAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES>> in UNICEF supported facilities	2,500,000	1,607,419
Nutrition		
Number of caregivers of children (0-23 months) reached with <<MESSAGES ON BREASTFEEDING>>	450,000	203,666
Number of children 6-59 months admitted for << TREATMENT OF SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION (SAM) >>.	188,052	80,634
Number of health and/or nutrition workers trained on nutrition in the context of COVID-19	N/A	N/A
Number of women and adolescent girls receiving iron and folic acid (IFA) /or multiple micronutrient supplement (MMS)	1,026,850	840,788
Number of children 6-59 months who received Vitamin A supplements in Semester 1, as of date of reporting	3,696,660	730,515
Education		
Number of children supported with << DISTANCE/HOME-BASED LEARNING >>	500,000	1,200
Number of schools implementing <<SAFE SCHOOL PROTOCOLS>> (COVID-19 prevention and control). (a) Is this indicator part of the CO's response?	5,500	505

Child Protection and GBV		
Number of children without parental or family care provided with appropriate <<ALTERNATIVE CARE ARRANGEMENTS>>	500	322
Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based <<MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT>>	2,500	491
Number of UNICEF personnel & partners that have completed <<TRAINING ON GBV RISK MITIGATION & REFERRALS FOR SURVIVORS>>, including for PSEA*	400	198
Social Protection		
Number of households (affected by COVID-19) receiving humanitarian <<MULTI-SECTOR CASH GRANT>> for basic needs. (a) Is this indicator part of the CO's response?	40,000	0

Annex B

Funding Status*

Sector	Funding requirements	Funds available	Funding gap \$	Gap %
C4D / RCCE	1,500,000	1,279,929.27	220,070.73	15%
WASH & IPC	3,510,000	4,352,741.49	(842741)	-24%
Health&Nutrition	1,725,000	3,454,141	(1729141)	-100%
Child Protection	2,550,000	630,000	1,920,000	75%
Education	4,500,000	1,373,875.76	3,126,124.24	69%
Social Protection	10,000,000	0	10,000,000	100%
PME	200,000	271,541.62	(71542)	-36%
Coordination & Operational costs	250,000	347,500	(97500)	-51%
Total	24,235,000	11,709,729.14	12,505,270.86	52%

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