



© UNICEF/318A7554/Dicko

Reporting Period: 01st to 30 September 2020

Highlights

- On 21 September 2020, former Mali Defense Minister and retired Colonel-Major Bah N'Daou was appointed as the President of the 18-month transitional government; on 27 September 2020, he designated former Malian Foreign Minister Moctar Ouane as the Prime Minister of the transition
- 6,078 (3,460 girls and 2,618 boys) were reached with community based mental health and psychosocial support services.
- 125,478 people (64,44 children) including 34,170 people in September benefited from both temporary and permanent drinking water services in north and central regions.
- 235,928 under five children reached by the first round of the poliomyelitis immunization campaign from 27 to 30 September 2020 in Gao and Menaka regions.
- 12,273 children (of which 5,867 are girls) reached with access to formal and non-formal education in the Central (Segou Mopti) and Northern (Gao, Timbuktu) regions.
- 108,426 (including 10,448 in September) cases of severe malnutrition were treated.

Humanitarian Situation Report No9

unicef 
for every child

Situation in Numbers



3,500,000

children in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA Mali HNO revised August 2020)



6,800,000

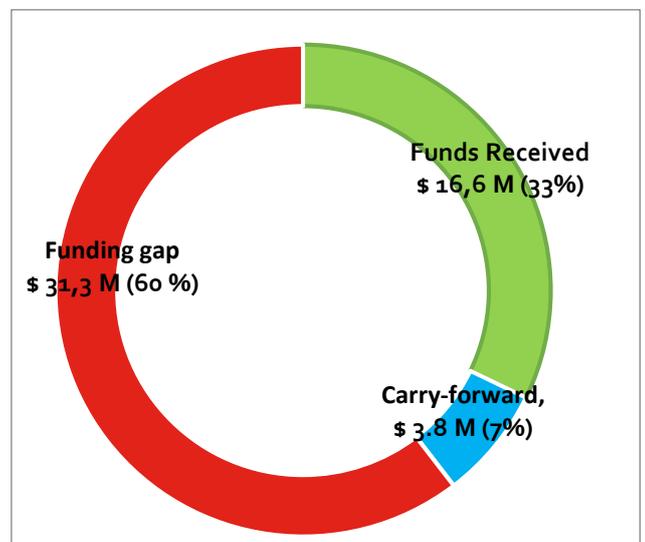
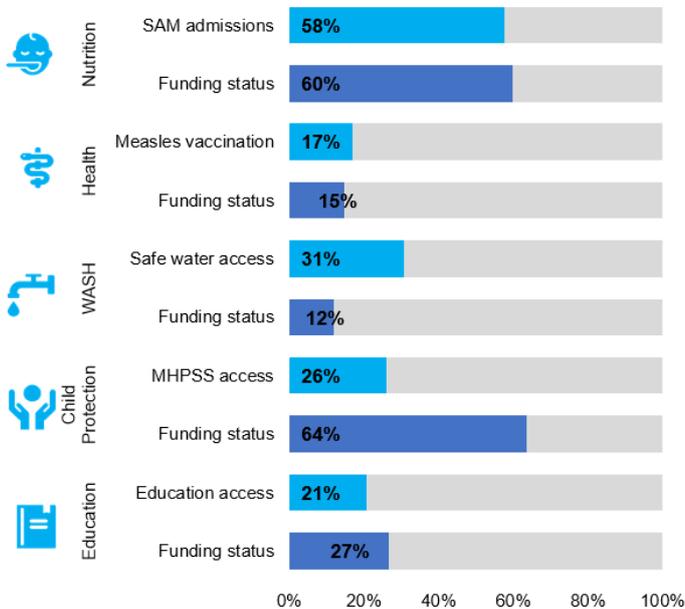
people in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA Mali HNO revised August 2020)



287,496

Internally displaced people (National Directorate of Social Development - DNDS. Matrix for Monitoring Displacement (DTM), 30 July 2020)

UNICEF Appeal 2020 US\$ 51,85 million



*Funding available includes carry-over and funds received in the current year.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2020, UNICEF is appealing for US\$ 52 million to meet the humanitarian needs of children in Mali, to facilitate access to quality basic social services and protect children affected by the crisis. As of 30th September 2020, US\$ 16,678,364 had been received in addition to the US\$ 3,847,562 carry-forward for a total of US\$ 20,525,926, representing 40 per cent of the Global Appeal. WASH, Health and Education remain the most underfunded sectors with respectively 12; 15 and 27 per cent of fund received. Based on the current situation in the country, the needs for these sectors remain high, necessitating an increase in funding to ensure vital interventions and to maintain previous investments. UNICEF also requires US\$ 24.2 million to respond effectively and efficiently to the COVID-19 pandemic. While expressing its deep gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received (the Spanish Committee for UNICEF, the Norwegian Committee for UNICEF, the CERF, ECHO, The Global Humanitarian Funds, the Governments of the USA, of Germany, Spain, of the Czech Republic, Sweden, Canada, Switzerland and the United Kingdom), UNICEF calls for additional contributions to fill the current 60 per cent gap - without which it will not be able to provide an adequate response to vulnerable children in Mali whose needs are on the increase due to the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on basic services.

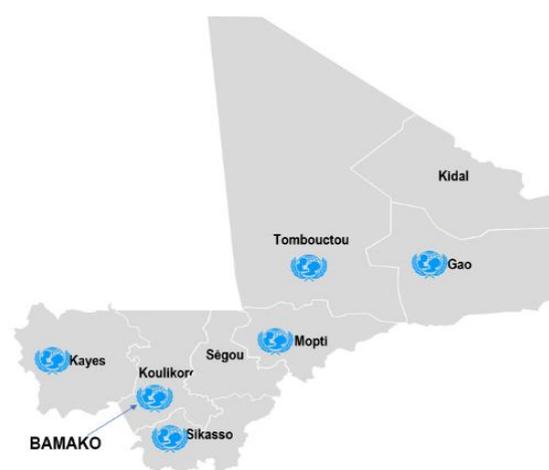
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The socio-political situation of the country, which was aggravated by the military coup of 18 August 2020 and followed by ECOWAS sanctions (closure of borders), improved with the installation of a transitional president and vice president on 25 September 2020.

The humanitarian situation remains extremely fragile and complex, characterised by the presence of non-state armed groups, on-going insecurity along the borders in the Liptako Gourma countries (Burkina Faso and Niger), recurrent inter-communal conflicts, increased crime, the presence of improvised explosive devices, outbreaks of violence, particularly in the northern and central regions, and attacks against national and international armed forces as well as against humanitarian organisations leading to 287,496 internally displaced persons (as of 30 July 2020)¹ concentrated in the northern and central regions (Gao, Mopti, Segou and Timbuktu). The volatile security situation in northern and central Mali, as well as the on-going humanitarian situation, which is being further exacerbated by conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic, continues to negatively affect children's rights and welfare and increase their vulnerability and protection risks. Insecurity in central and northern regions is accompanied by violations of the rights of individuals, particularly of children - victims of recruitment by armed groups and forces, gender-based violence and family separation-: 1,2 million children need protection¹

Estimates from the March 2020 Harmonized Framework (pre-COVID-19) anticipated that five million people² could be food insecure during the lean season in 2020 (June-August)³ of which more than 1.3 million severely food insecure- an increase of 107 per cent compared to the lean season 2019. In the context of the shocks associated with conflicts and drought and considering vulnerabilities induced by the COVID-19 pandemic, the estimated number of people who could be affected by severe food insecurity during the lean season was revised upwards - between 2 and 2.7 million people⁴.

UNICEF Field Structure in Mali



¹ OCHA Mali, HRP révisé, Juillet 2020

² 129,874 people are in Phase 4 ; 1,210,867 in Phase 3 and 3,654,887 in Phase 4.

³ Note de plaidoyer : Clusters Sécurité Alimentaire, Nutrition & Protection, Mali, Juin 2020

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/fr/operations/mali/document/mali-note-de-plaidoyer-en-faveur-dune-r%C3%A9ponse-coordonn%C3%A9e-et-mise-%C3%A0-l%C3%A9chelle>

⁴ ibid

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nutrition Cluster revised the estimated number of children 6-59 months expected with severe acute malnutrition, from 166,000 to 188,000 nationwide (an increase of 13% compared to initial 2020 estimates).

The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance countrywide increased by 58 per cent between January and July 2020 (from 4.3 million to 6.8 million); 3.5 million of them are children⁵.

As of 27th September 2020, 3,086 coronavirus cases were recorded in nine regions (out of 10) as well as in the district of Bamako since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in Mali in March 2020. At this date, the COVID-19 pandemic caused the death of 130 persons (fatality rate 4.2 per cent). The district of Bamako concentrates the majority of the cases (49.6 per cent) followed by the regions of Timbuktu (18.5 per cent) and, Koulikoro and Mopti with 8.3 per cent each. UNICEF, in collaboration with WHO and partners, is actively supporting the Government of Mali to implement the national response plan and is engaged in activities across all priority areas including risk communication and community engagement, hygiene reinforcement in health facilities and communities, support to continuity of preventive and curative health and nutrition services, Infection Prevention and control (IPC) support, and support to access to education.

In accordance with the measures taken by the Government, schools have remained closed since March 2020, except for classes due to sit examinations, which reopened in June, but reclosed due to the August 18, 2020 military Coup. School closures are affecting the right to education for 3.8 million children.

Furthermore, Mali is still facing a circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) epidemic. As of September 2020, fourteen (14) cases were confirmed over the country including Northern region of Menaka (2 cases), 3 health districts of Bamako district (8 cases), Sikasso health district (2 cases) and Mopti (2 cases).

Faced with the high risk of the virus spreading, the Government of Mali and Global Polio Eradication Initiative Partners (WHO, UNICEF, BMGF, GAVI) are implementing mass immunization campaign in the regions of Gao and Menaka from August to December 2020, which targets 228,483 children (192,551 in Gao and 35,932 in Menaka).

The recent heavy rains caused floods with nearly 80,760 people who suffer material damage (thousands of damaged houses, tons of food destroyed, more than a hundred of damaged schools and hundreds of hectares of crops washed away). Despite the assistance already provided by the Malian authorities and humanitarian partners, gaps in assistance remain (particularly for WASH services and Non-Food items provision).

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

From January to September 30, 2020, a total of 98,594 cases of severe malnutrition (10,448 in September) were treated, which represents about 52% of the 188,051 cases expected in 2020. This result is slightly higher than what was reported last year at the same period (96,773 children treated).

In September 2020, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) activities (counselling, nutritional demonstration, promotion of breastfeeding, complementary feeding from 6 months of age as well as micronutrient Vitamin A supplementation) covered 9,262 people for a total of 112,654 people reached since the beginning of the year.

UNICEF is providing a technical and financial support to the Government of Mali for the organization of the 2020 nutrition survey (SMART methodology) to be implemented from November to December 2020.

Health

Mali faces an outbreak of the circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV2) with the confirmation of 14 cases over the country including in the region of Menaka (two cases), Bamako district (eight cases), Sikasso (two cases) and Mopti (two cases).

⁵ OCHA Mali, HRP révisé, Juillet 2020

Following the declaration of outbreak on August 18, 2020, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Public Health and Social Affairs in the implementation of the response with the deployment of 14 Consultants (seven C4D Consultants, six vaccine Managers, and one Outbreak Coordinator). The first round of the Poliomyelitis vaccination campaign was organized from 27 to 30 September in Gao and Menaka regions, reaching 236,489 under five children (103%⁶) over 228,483 targeted. The community mobilizers have visited 14,222 households, sensitizing 58,889 people (24,924 men and 34,065 women (58%)).

The coordination of the response is led by the National Coordination Committee chaired by the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) appointed a coordinator in July 24, who has held to date four meetings at national level and two cross-border meetings with Niger and Benin. The insecurity in central and northern regions has impacted the deployment of the consultants and the low communication network coverage that has slowed data reporting on this campaign.

WASH

UNICEF supported the Government of Mali in assisting the population affected by the crises in the centre and northern regions through the Regional Technical Services (the Directorates of Hydraulic, Directorates of Social Development and Solidarity Economy, Directorates of Civil Protection). In total 104,478 people (56,157 children) of which 34,170 people in September in Mopti, Gao, Kidal, Timbuktu and Taoudenit regions benefited through short-term emergency kits distribution including water treatment products. 125,478 people (64,444 children) including 34,170 people in September benefited from both temporary and permanent drinking water services in Mopti, Gao, Kidal, Timbuktu and Taoudenit regions. These results were achieved in partnership with UNICEF and its implementing partners including the NGOs NRC, IMADEL (Initiative Malienne d'Appui au Développement local), TASSAGHT, Solidarités Internationale (SI).

Education

In September, UNICEF and partners reached 12,273 children (of which 5,867 are girls) with access to formal and non-formal education in the Central and Northern regions. A total of 22,691 children (10,974 girls) received individual learning materials thanks to the CERF funding, in partnership with local NGOs ACODIS and GARDL in the region of Gao. In Mopti region, UNICEF and the NGO APIDEV supported 315 girls and 318 boys to access to formal and non-formal education.

Post rain floods have affected the Education sector in the regions of Bamako, Koulikoro, Kayes, Mopti, Segou and Gao with 152 schools damaged⁷, 76 schools affected by access problems and six schools occupied by affected people; more than 55,000 students attending these schools and 800 teachers are affected by those perturbations.

A communication has been activated by the regional Education Cluster under the leadership of UNICEF to solicit the support of other education partners in terms of rehabilitation, construction and equipment of classrooms and or temporary learning spaces where appropriate. Information has been shared with education stakeholders such as the mayor at specific sites for arrangements to be made, as well as through the Education Cluster to consider together what support to provide to damaged and occupied schools to enable children to attend classes. In few places temporary shelters and water drainage have already been put in place.

In Gao and Timbuktu regions, the production of pedagogical content and distribution of distance learning are ongoing with the implementing partner NRC thanks to the Education Cannot Wait (ECW)- COVID-19 funding received in July. Activities are extended to the distribution of listening kits for home-based and distance learning and implementation of the COVID-19 school protocols. UNICEF through its implementing partner, NGO APIDEV, continues to support 315 girls' and 318 boys' access to formal and non-formal education in Mopti.

⁶ Explanation of the slight overachievement: target for the polio campaign was defined based of the number of children vaccinated in previous rounds as civil registry is not accurate.

⁷ Source: collected by UNICEF Field Offices from Education academy (AE) and Pedagogic Animation Center (CAP)

Child Protection

In September, UNICEF and partners reached 6,078 children (3,460 girls and 2,618 boys) with psychosocial support services in Bamako district, Gao, Kidal, Ménaka, Mopti and Timbuktu regions. This number represents 26% of the overall target (41,689 out of 160,000 children targeted to receive the psychosocial support). Progress towards annual targets has been constrained due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 in March 2020, for which the Government declared a state of emergency and established measures to contain the pandemic including the closure of schools and ban of gatherings of more than 50 people, resulting in the temporary closure of child-friendly spaces in exception of those located in the IDP sites that remained open with limited frequency and number of children. Facing those constraints, UNICEF Mali adopted new strategies such as social workers mobile team to reach children in their communities. However, this approach is more expensive and can only reach a limited number of children (10-15 maximum per visit). Although UNICEF received 64% of the planned budget for child protection interventions in 2020, the implementation of COVID-19 prevention measures in child protection facilities generated additional costs that were not foreseen. Additionally, some funding received are directed to individual care (CAFAAG, UASC, GBV survivors etc.)⁸ and only few are allocated to community-based mental health and psychosocial support.

UNICEF and partners reached 98 unaccompanied and separated children (42 girls and 56 boys) with holistic interim care and child protection services in Bamako district, Gao, Kidal, Ménaka, Mopti and Timbuktu regions. 64 children (15 girls and 49 boys) released from armed groups benefitted from holistic care services as well as socio-economic reintegration support in the same regions. Out of these children, 46 benefitted with income generating activities, 12 with vocational training while the remaining six children were reached with school reintegration. Nine children (four girls and five boys) received GBV support including medical and psychosocial support, shelter, physical security and counselling. These results were achieved thanks to the concerted efforts between UNICEF and the implementing partners including COOPI, ATDED, GARDL, SOLISA, Kanuya and the Regional Directorate for the Promotion of Women, Children and Families.

Communication for Development

The social mobilization interventions through the "Second Decade for Peace" project continued to be implemented in the north and the centre of the country, through the four national NGOs (Action Mopti, ARDIL, APADL and IMADEL). These UNICEF partners for C4D activities are raising awareness around peace promotion and social cohesion in the Gao, Tombouctou and Mopti areas through radio programmes, community dialogues and door to door visits. In the Mopti region, door to door visits were conducted in the targeted communes. During the reporting period, 2,840 door-to-door visits permitted to reach directly 17,976 persons with key messages among which 3,341 men, 5,543 women, 4,315 young boys and 4,777 young girls.

As Gao and Menaka regions are facing a polio outbreak, a response campaign was launched from 27 to 30 September. To support this campaign, 482 social and community mobilizers were trained (102 town criers and 380 social mobilisers) and deployed to deliver key messages to parents and caregivers and promote dialogue on the campaign (dates, targeted children, vaccine to be delivered and benefits for children and communities). 58 social mobilizers and 51 journalists were also involved to ensure respectively accountability around social mobilization interventions and delivering accurate messages in community radios broadcasting in local and most spoken languages in the Gao and Menaka areas. Overall, nearly 60,000 people including 34,000 women were directly reached by the social and community mobilizers through social mobilization activities and radio programmes.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

Leadership, coordination and humanitarian strategy remains unchanged since August 2020. The new Ministry of Health and Social Development is the line ministry responsible for coordinating humanitarian action with the support of the Humanitarian Country Team. UNICEF leads three clusters (the WASH, Nutrition and Education clusters) and Child Protection sub-cluster and participates in the Inter-cluster coordination forum at national and subnational levels.

⁸ Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups (CAFAAG) Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) and Gender Based Violence(GBV)

A COVID-19 Humanitarian plan has been elaborated and a COVID-19 Task Force has been instituted by the Humanitarian Country Team to orientate and coordinate inter-cluster activities, and the health cluster and humanitarian coordination structures engaged in the COVID-19 response.

In line with the inter-agency humanitarian strategy to save lives and protect affected populations, in 2020, UNICEF will address the urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations in crisis-affected regions in Mali, while strengthening the linkages between humanitarian action and development programming and prioritizing community-based approaches.

UNICEF along with the National and Regional Directorates for the Promotion of Children, Women and Family continues to coordinate the child protection sub-clusters at the national level and in the regions. In August, the Humanitarian Programming Cycle was initiated with the revision of severity indicators and methodology for the sectorial Humanitarian Needs Overview, in close collaboration with the Protection Cluster. A rapid evaluation of the impact of the coup d'état was conducted through an online survey in order to analyse the related child protection risks and the implications for partners' operations and implementation of child protection activities.

UNICEF in Mali, with partners, contributes to strengthening the national health and nutrition systems to deliver emergency services, including the provision of water and sanitation packages, the management of SAM cases, measles and Poliomyelitis vaccination, and providing psychosocial support to conflict-affected children. UNICEF continues to promote the continuity of education through community mobilisation, community learning centres and the provision of school supplies, reinforce the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism and support the release of children from armed forces and groups, and providing girl survivors of gender-based violence with community care and socio-economic reintegration.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

- Production and diffusion of [multimedia contents](#) on social medias linked to back to school in Mopti region.

Next SitRep: 31 October 2020

UNICEF Mali Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/unicefmali/>

UNICEF Mali Twitter: <https://twitter.com/unicefmali>

UNICEF Mali Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/Mali.html>

**Who to contact
for further
information:**

Sylvie Fouet
Representative
UNICEF Mali
Tel: (+ 223) 44 97 69 69
Email: lelmi@unicef.org

Anne Daher Aden
Chief of Field Ops and
Emergency,
UNICEF Mali
Tel: (+223) 75 99 62 50
Email: Adaheraden@UNICEF.org

Annex A - Summary of Programme Results

| | | UNICEF and IPs Response | | | Cluster/Sector Response | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Sector | Overall needs | 2020 target | Total results* | Change since last report ▲ ▼ | 2020 target | Total results* | Change since last report ▲ ▼ |
| Nutrition | | | | | | | |
| Number of children under 5 years affected by Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for treatment | 188,053 | 188,053 | 108,426 ⁹ | 20,280 | 188,053 | 108,426 | 20,280 |
| Number of Caregivers of children reached with infant and young child feeding counselling (M/F) | 558,212 | 110,000 | 112,654 | 9,262 | 150,000 | 112,654 | 9,262 |
| Health | | | | | | | |
| # children under 5 vaccinated against measles | NA | 806,000 | 135,305 | 0 | | | |
| # children under five reached each round of polio campaign in northern regions | NA | 1,140,000 | 324,531 | 236,489 | | | |
| WASH | | | | | | | |
| # People accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene | 953,103 | 406,750 | 125,478 | 34,170 | 953,103 | 246,775 | 34,170 |
| # people accessing appropriate sanitation facilities | 50,000 | 40,000 | 6,400 | 0 | 50,000 | 61,874 | 0 |
| # Children accessing WASH facilities in learning environments | 210,000 | 20,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 210,000 | 8,580 | 0 |
| # SAM children receiving a WASH kit and hygiene promotion session | 57,853 | 2,000 | 700 | 0 | 57,853 | 4,583 | 0 |
| Child Protection | | | | | | | |
| # Children accessing psychosocial support, including in child-friendly spaces and other safe spaces | 1, 207, 073 | 160,000 | 41,682 | 6,078 | 240,000 | 47,676 | 7,407 |
| # Children separated from armed groups accessing socio-economic reintegration support | | 400 | 371 | 64 | 500 | 396 | 84 |
| # Unaccompanied and separated children accessing family-based care or appropriate alternative services | | 600 | 590 | 98 | 900 | 745 | 115 |
| # women and children accessing GBV response interventions | | 400 | 210 | 9 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Education | | | | | | | |
| # Children accessing formal and non-formal education | 564,327 | 90,000 | 18,504 | 12,273 | 333,178 | 122,592 | 12,273 |
| # Children receiving individual learning materials | 564,327 | 90,000 | 25,817 | 22,058 | 237,984 | 60,070 | 22,058 |

⁹ An error occurred in the cumulative result reported in August sitrep: right number is 97,978 instead of 88,146. The change since the last report (20,280) is consequently slightly higher than in previous months

Annex B

Funding Status*

| Sector | Requirements | Funds available | | Funding gap | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| | | Received Current Year | Carry-Over | \$ | |
| Nutrition | 20,500,000 | 10,483,013 | 1,754,071 | 8,262,916 | 40% |
| WASH | 14,400,000 | 1,364,222 | 357,842 | 12,677,936 | 88% |
| Health | 1,600,000 | 116,091 | 120,613 | 1,363,296 | 85% |
| Child Protection | 4,850,000 | 1,855,223 | 1,232,416 | 1,762,361 | 36% |
| Education | 9,000,000 | 2,358,942 | 34,326 | 6,606,732 | 73% |
| Cluster Coordination | 1,500,000 | 500,873 | 348,294 | 650,833 | 43% |
| Total | 51,850,000 | 16,678,364 | 3,847,562 | 31,324,074 | 60% |