Chad is facing conflict-induced displacements, destructive rains, floods, loss of crops and the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Over 3 million schoolchildren (58 per cent girls) are affected by nationwide school closures; almost 1.8 million children under 5 years are suffering from global acute malnutrition, including 500,000 who are severely malnourished; and over 300,000 refugee children are at risk of not being vaccinated.

UNICEF will implement a multi-sectoral and gender-sensitive strategy linking humanitarian action and development programming. This will include disease outbreak prevention and control, including in relation to COVID-19, early detection, quality treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM), distance and school-based learning, school materials for displaced, returnee and refugee children; and capacity building for the provision of care, referrals and psychosocial support.

UNICEF requests US$59.5 million to respond to humanitarian needs in Chad. Thirty per cent of these funds will support the COVID-19 response.

**KEY PLANNED TARGETS**

- **403,437** children admitted for treatment for severe acute malnutrition
- **370,000** children vaccinated against measles
- **100,000** people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water
- **223,500** children receiving individual learning materials

**IN NEED**

- **6.4 million** people
- **3.1 million** children

**TO BE REACHED**

- **1.2 million** people
- **1.1 million** children

**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS**

- **US$ 59.5 million**
HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

Chad ranks 187 out of 189 countries on the Human Development Index, and 6.5 million Chadians live in poverty. COVID-19 has further reduced children's well-being and plunged at least 744,000 additional children into poverty. By the end of 2020, some 6.4 million people – over one third of the population – will require humanitarian assistance, up from 5.3 million in 2020.

Population displacements continue, with people fleeing non-state armed groups in the Lake Chad Basin and seeking refuge from neighbouring countries. Nearly 480,000 refugees reside in Chad, and some 397,000 Chadians are internally displaced, including 46,000 people who are newly displaced and 76,000 refugees who arrived in 2020 and need humanitarian assistance, including psychosocial support. Insecurity in the Lake Chad Basin is limiting humanitarian capacity to respond.

An estimated 2.7 million people in Chad are food insecure. Malnutrition data, adjusted to account for COVID-19 and the degradation in food security, show that nearly 1.8 million children (12.9 per cent) are affected by global acute malnutrition, including nearly 498,000 children (2.9 per cent) suffering from SAM.

Before the pandemic, over 3.7 million children were out of school. Current estimates indicate that over 3 million children (58 per cent girls), including over 100,000 refugees, nearly 84,000 internally displaced children and over 57,000 returning children, have been affected by nationwide school closures. In addition, nearly 140,000 students no longer have access to school canteens. Fear of infection has also led to declining health facility-based deliveries (3.9 per cent of expected deliveries) and may leave over 311,000 children unprotected by the pentavalent vaccine. Projections also indicate that infant and maternal mortality could increase by 11 per cent and 3 per cent, respectively, during the next 12 months.

The fragile health system is under severe pressure from outbreaks of measles, cholera and chikungunya. Half of the population has access to safe drinking water, only 1 person in 10 has access to adequate sanitation, and only 1 child in 17 washes their hands regularly. Children remain extremely vulnerable to physical and sexual violence and psychosocial distress, as well as recruitment into armed forces and exploitation. In displacement sites, 60 per cent of at-risk children are separated or unaccompanied, and gender-based violence is increasing among internally displaced persons and in host communities.

SECTOR NEEDS

**Nutrition**
4.4 million people need nutrition assistance

**Health**
1.8 million people need health assistance

**Water, sanitation and hygiene**
1.8 million people lack access to safe water

**Education**
3 million children need education support

STORY FROM THE FIELD

“In March 2020, an armed group raided my village Boma, in Lake Chad province,” witnesses Yakoura, a 45-year old mother of nine children. “We had to leave everything behind, our houses, boats, animals…”

“When we arrived in the site, there was hardly any water to drink. We spent the whole day queuing at one of the five water points”

UNICEF Chad constructed five additional water points and distributed non-food items. This period coincided with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. UNICEF responded by sensitizing the population on protective measures to prevent the spread of the virus in the camp.

Read more about this story here
HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

UNICEF will implement a multi-sectoral humanitarian response consistent with the National Development Plan 2017-2021, the Humanitarian Response Plan 2021 and the COVID-19 response plan, while further harmonizing humanitarian responses and development interventions.

UNICEF will continue to support epidemic and disease outbreak prevention and control, including for COVID-19. In addition to supporting improved coverage of routine immunization and scheduled vaccination campaigns against measles and circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2, UNICEF will ensure that children affected by displacement remain protected against measles. Early detection and quality treatment of children with SAM and community-based approaches to prevention will be consolidated. UNICEF will also seek out stronger government commitments to securing therapeutic nutrition supplies.

Support for distance and school-based learning and the provision of school materials to displaced, returnee and refugee children will continue, incorporating lessons learned from previous years including the 2020 COVID-19 response. UNICEF will also provide infection prevention and control support to health centres, schools and communities. This support will focus on access to clean water, adequate sanitation and hygiene promotion, including preventive and protective practices; and the effective participation of communities in preparedness, response and resilience building.

UNICEF will continue to identify solutions that address the needs of women and girls, including through gender-based violence mitigation, prevention and response; and engage women and girls as active community members. The response will also focus on building the capacities of specialized services and community-based structures to identify vulnerable children and provide adequate care, referrals and psychosocial support.

UNICEF’s humanitarian action will be carried out in coordination with national authorities, United Nations agencies and humanitarian partners, and will reinforce national emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, such as inter-cluster coordination. UNICEF will continue to lead the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), nutrition and education clusters and the child protection sub-cluster and fulfill its role within the Humanitarian Country Team. As part of this role, UNICEF will reinforce government capacities and support the gradual transfer of cluster leadership to government counterparts. Communication for development activities will be integrated across sectors and interventions.

The response will focus on provinces affected by displacements and/or the arrival of refugees in the Lake Chad Basin, the east and south areas of the country (Lac, Hadjer Lamis, Logone oriental, Ouaddai and Sila) and the 18 (of 23) provinces considered most affected by the nutritional crisis. UNICEF will also respond to disease outbreaks and natural disasters throughout the country.

Progress against the 2020 programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: https://www.unicef.org/appeals/chad/situation-reports

2021 PROGRAMME TARGETS

**Nutrition**
- 403,437 children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment
- 370,000 children aged 6 to 59 months receiving vitamin A supplementation every six months

**Health**
- 370,000 children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles

**Water, sanitation and hygiene**
- 100,000 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene
- 20,000 people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines

**Child protection, GBViE and PSEA**
- 30,000 children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- 28,000 women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions
- 2,500 unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services

**Education**
- 24,500 children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- 223,500 children receiving individual learning materials

**Social protection and cash transfers**
- 9,600 households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors

**C4D, community engagement and AAP**
- 15,000 people participating in engagement actions for social and behavioural change

**Non-food items**
- 80,000 displaced people who received non-food items and emergency shelter
UNICEF is requesting US$59.5 million to meet the emergency needs of nearly 1.1 million vulnerable children and women in Chad in 2021. In line with the inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan, this funding will enable UNICEF to support a multi-sector response to the nutrition crisis, reach those children and communities that have been most affected, and support sustainable prevention and control of disease outbreaks, including COVID-19. Without adequate, timely and flexible funding, UNICEF will be unable to provide life-saving assistance to children and women affected by the complex emergencies in Chad and neighbouring countries.

UNICEF will conduct its humanitarian response in line with government strategies and in consultation with United Nations agencies, civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations, while actively and continuously seeking feedback from women and children participating in humanitarian interventions.

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions: Emergency response (4.5%), Health (2.5%), HIV and AIDS (<1%).

**TABLE 1: FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR 2021 (US$ million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2021 Requirements (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>34,278,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>1,513,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>7,388,500(^{32})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA</td>
<td>3,017,886(^{34})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>6,641,811(^{33})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social protection and cash transfers</td>
<td>3,600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV and AIDS</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency response</td>
<td>2,660,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>59,500,890</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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33. UNICEF’s response will focus on reaching people who will not be reached by partners. The total figure was calculated based on the highest coverage programme targets of children under 5 years to be reached with SAM treatment and vaccination; children aged 3 to 17 years to be reached with educational materials; children to be reached with psychosocial support; adults to be reached with access to WASH services; and women to be reached with prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV services. The total figure includes 572,602 men/boys (49.7 per cent) and 579,515 women/girls (50.3 per cent). Based on census data 1.17 per cent of men/boys and 0.99 per cent of women/girls have a disability. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.

The remaining needs will be covered through cluster partners. The total figure was calculated based on the highest coverage programme targets of children under 5 years to be reached with SAM treatment and vaccination (adjusted to avoid double counting); children aged 3 to 17 years to be reached with educational materials; children to be reached with psychosocial support; and children to be reached with access to WASH services. The total figure includes 524,360 boys (49.6 per cent) and 532,957 girls (50.4 per cent). Based on census data, 0.51 per cent of boys and 0.49 per cent of girls aged 0 to 14 years have a disability.


10. ‘Chad: Humanitarian Response Plan 2020 Revision’.

11. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, August 2020; and ‘Delivering Essential Health Services during the Pandemic in Chad’.

12. Ibid. Children make up 49.2 per cent of the population.


15. ‘Chad: Humanitarian Response Plan 2020 Revision’.

16. Ibid.

17. ‘Delivering Essential Health Services during the Pandemic in Chad’.

18. Ibid.


20. Ibid.


22. Ibid.

23. Ibid.

24. Ibid.

25. UNICEF leads cluster coordination for the WASH, nutrition and education clusters and the child protection area of responsibility.

26. UNICEF is targeting 46 per cent of the WASH cluster target. The remaining beneficiaries will be covered by other partners, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Action Against Hunger, the International Rescue Committee, Concern Worldwide, Oxfam, and Solidarités Internationale.

27. Due to space constraints, the following acronyms appear in the appeal: GBViE (gender-based violence in emergencies); PSEA (prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse); C4D (communication for development); and AAP (accountability to affected populations).

28. This target includes women and children who will benefit simultaneously from psychosocial support and gender-based violence mitigation, prevention and response.

29. Given that COVID-19 prevention activities in schools (infection prevention and control/WASH in schools) are increasingly becoming part of mainstream development, UNICEF Chad has opted to not target all children in school who are potentially affected by the lingering effects of COVID-19 as part of the 2021 appeal to avoid duplication of coverage. Other partners, including UNHCR, WFP, Humanity & Inclusion and Cooperazione Internazionale, will cover the rest of the cluster target.

30. UNICEF will primarily target traditional leaders, religious leaders, local administrative authorities and youth to encourage their participation in engagement actions for social and behavioural change, mostly through training of trainers activities.

31. Funding requirements for the 2021 appeal are estimated based on the actual needs of the sectors and cost estimates as of the end of 2020. While some unit costs have increased, such as for the WASH sector, due to the inclusion of COVID-19 infection prevention and control interventions, economies of scale are envisaged for other interventions, such as distance education for out-of-school children. Note that the financial requirements will be revised in early 2021 based on updated cost estimates for the 2021 interventions once the 2021 humanitarian needs overview and humanitarian response plan are finalized.

32. The cost per capita increased from US$67 in 2020 to US$74 in 2021, largely due to the additional infection prevention and control/WASH training and sensitization activities in relation to the COVID-19 response, as well as the costs of additional personal protective equipment and logistics.

33. The cost per child has increased by only US$4, from US$26 in 2020 to US$30 in 2021, largely due to COVID-19 cost drivers.

34. Within the overall child protection budget, gender-based violence interventions represent 14 per cent; prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse interventions represent 1 per cent; and child protection interventions represent 85 per cent.