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Children play and learn at a UNICEF-supported child-friendly space in Kaya, Centre Nord region.

unicef for every child

Humanitarian Action for Children

Burkina Faso

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Burkina Faso, 2.9 million people need humanitarian assistance.[1] This includes over 1 million people who are internally displaced (60 per cent children), a 600 per cent increase since April 2019;[2] 1.7 million people who lack access to health services;[3] and 5.1 million children who are temporarily out of school due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.[4] In addition, more than 106,000 people were affected by the worst floods in 10 years.[5] Two municipalities have registered global acute malnutrition rates above 15 per cent.[6]
- UNICEF will respond to the humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso by increasing its presence in the field; intensifying its community-based partnerships, particularly in areas with restricted humanitarian access; involving affected populations in identifying solutions to issues affecting children; and strengthening the linkages between humanitarian action, development programmes and peacebuilding efforts. By applying a community-based approach and working to rebuild social cohesion in Burkina Faso, UNICEF's humanitarian response will contribute to addressing the root causes of the crisis.
- UNICEF requires US$155 million to support the most vulnerable, crisis-affected children in Burkina Faso with a multi-sectoral package of humanitarian assistance.

IN NEED

2.9 million people[7]

1.7 million children[8]

TO BE REACHED

2.3 million people[9]

878,000 children[10]

KEY PLANNED TARGETS

156,453
children admitted for treatment for severe acute malnutrition

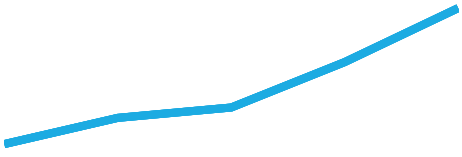
405,000
children and women accessing health care

660,000
people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water

504,000
children accessing educational services

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS[36]

US$ 155 million



Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents.

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

The humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso is deteriorating. Some 2.9 million people need humanitarian assistance.[11]

As attacks by non-state armed groups continue, more civilians are being targeted or threatened and humanitarian access continues to decline. As of 24 September, the country had registered 380 security incidents in 2020 (582 civilian casualties, including 30 children),[12] which has led to new waves of displacement. As of 8 September, 1 million people (60 per cent children) were internally displaced, compared with 170,000 people in April 2019 – a 600 per cent increase.[13]

The humanitarian crisis – including the COVID-19 pandemic – has limited access to basic social services. As of 25 August, 95 health centres were closed, depriving 1.7 million people of health services.[14] Vaccine-preventable diseases are on the rise due to declines in immunization coverage.[15]

As of 10 March, 2,500 schools were closed due to insecurity, depriving 350,000 children of their right to education.[16] On 16 March, all schools in Burkina Faso were closed, affecting 5.1 million children, 12 per cent of whom are living in the five most affected regions.[17] Even as schools reopen, the deteriorating humanitarian context will significantly impact the education and learning of children and their physical and emotional well-being.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also severely impacted the country's capacity to keep water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services functional. An estimated 2.4 million people need access to safe water.[18]

Persistent insecurity and the impacts of COVID-19 have also heightened the risks of emotional, physical and sexual and gender-based violence for children and families, while further disrupting the continuity of child protection services designed to prevent, mitigate and respond to these risks. Vital services such as psychosocial support, civil registration and support for survivors of violence have all been disrupted.

Burkina Faso was also hit with severe climate shocks in 2020, including the worst flooding in 10 years, which affected 106,000 people.[19] These crises have led to one of the worst food situations of the last decade, with 15 per cent of the population facing crisis, emergency and famine levels of food insecurity.[20] A rapid nutrition survey conducted in 11 municipalities hosting internally displaced persons found emergency levels of global acute malnutrition (above 15 per cent) in two municipalities and high prevalence in four communes (10 to 15 per cent).[21]

SECTOR NEEDS

Nutrition

156,000 children have severe acute malnutrition (SAM)[22]

Health

2.6 million people need health care[23]

Water, sanitation and hygiene

2.4 million people lack access to WASH services

Education

700,000 children lack access to education[24]

STORY FROM THE FIELD

UNICEF Burkina Faso/2020/Claude Tarpiga

Kotim Sawadogo, 37, fetches water at a water pump installed by UNICEF at Cité des 38 villas site for internally displaced persons in sector 6 of Kaya.

Kotim is from Dablo, Centre Nord region. In March, her village was attacked by non-state armed groups. She and her four children fled to Kaya, which is 60 kilometres away.

Upon their arrival, the family was registered and sheltered near Cité des 38 villas in Kaya and Kotim received emergency kits. However the lack of access to safe water severely affected her children's health.

Thanks to UNICEF, and with financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation, two water pumps were built that have fully met Kotim's needs and the needs of other displaced people and host community members.

Read more about this story here

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

In 2021, UNICEF will address the most urgent needs of nearly 2.3 million crisis-affected people in Burkina Faso, including nearly 878,000 children. UNICEF's humanitarian action will be guided by three strategies: (1) supporting the continuity of services;[25] (2) accelerating service coverage; and (3) protecting staff safety, security and well-being in high-risk zones.

UNICEF will scale up its community-based partnerships, particularly in areas where the Government has suspended basic social services or where insecurity has severely restricted access to vulnerable populations. This participatory approach will strengthen the linkages between humanitarian action, development programmes and resilience building efforts.

Priority interventions will include: providing essential nutrition and health services, including via community-based health volunteers and mothers; building technical capacities in all sectors at national and subnational levels; increasing access to WASH services; facilitating treatment for children with SAM using simplified approaches;[26] strengthening community-based early detection of malnutrition and referrals; and supporting optimal infant and young child feeding practices and the prevention of micronutrient deficiencies.

UNICEF will support access to quality education through innovative multi-sectoral approaches such as digital and distance learning and radio education programmes for the early and adolescent years. UNICEF will also strengthen its gender-based violence in emergencies programming by increasing access to specialized services for survivors, addressing social norms and mitigating risks across sectors. Other equitable child protection services will include community-based mobile mental health and psychosocial support; family tracing and reunification for unaccompanied and separated children; and reintegration support for children formerly associated with armed groups.

UNICEF and partners will be among the first responders to crises through the provision of essential household items and health, nutrition and WASH interventions (hygiene promotion, access to safe drinking water and sanitation). Access constraints will be tackled through rapid response mechanisms, community-based interventions, mobile teams and advanced strategies to ensure service continuity in insecure areas. UNICEF will also scale up cash and market-based programming where relevant.

UNICEF will increasingly implement risk communication and community engagement interventions to equip affected people and communities with knowledge and skills that motivate them to develop positive, healthy and protective practices. Feedback and complaint mechanisms will be established to address community concerns and rumours, inform decision-making about the response and ensure the integration of gender and disability considerations and adolescent development and participation.

UNICEF will lead the nutrition, WASH and education clusters and the child protection area of responsibility and participate in humanitarian coordination fora.

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

This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action.

2021 PROGRAMME TARGETS

Nutrition

- **156,453** children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment
- **560,950** primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling

Health

- **405,000** children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities[27]
- **153,000** children aged 6 months to 14 years vaccinated against measles
- **77,150** households that received at least two long-lasting insecticide-treated nets

Water, sanitation and hygiene[28]

- **660,000** people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene[29]
- **700,000** people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines
- **820,000** people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services

Child protection, GBViE and PSEA[30,31]

- **200,000** children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- **25,000** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions
- **3,000** people with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse
- **2,500** unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services

Education

- **504,000** children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning[32]
- **360,000** children receiving individual learning materials
- **1,200** schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)

Social protection and cash transfers

- **10,000** households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors
- **5,000** households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding

C4D, community engagement and AAP[33]

- **2,500,000** people who participated in engagement actions for social and behavioural change[34]
- **500,000** people who shared their concerns and asked questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms

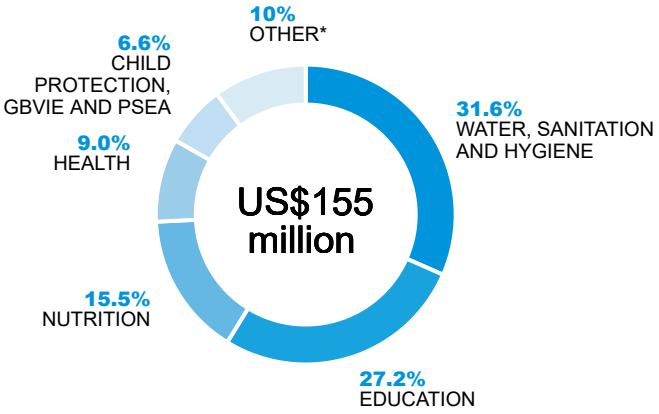
Rapid Response Mechanism

- **35,000** displaced people, including displaced people living with disabilities, who received essential household items

Programme targets are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2021

UNICEF requires US$155 million to accelerate the humanitarian response and guarantee the continuity and expansion of its support to meet the needs of children, adolescents and women in Burkina Faso in 2021. The needs and requirement have increased compared to 2020 due to the additional cost of programming to address insecurity and COVID-19. UNICEF's funding requirement is in line with the revised Humanitarian Response Plan 2020, pending the adoption of the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan and includes the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The appeal also includes expanded strategies to improve humanitarian access in insecure areas, including by strengthening community partnerships, increasing involvement in rapid response mechanisms, and expanding social protection and cash transfer programming to meet the multi-sectoral needs of children. Without adequate and timely funding in 2021, UNICEF and its partners will be unable to address the critical humanitarian needs of nearly 878,000 children in Burkina Faso.



**This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Social protection and cash transfers (4.5%), C4D, community engagement and AAP (2.6%), Rapid Response Mechanism (1.7%), Cluster coordination (1.3%).*

Sector	2021 requirements (US$)
Nutrition	**23,971,291**
Health	**13,935,019**
Water, sanitation and hygiene	**48,923,857**
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	**10,304,000**[35]
Education	**42,155,435**
Social protection and cash transfers	**7,000,000**
C4D, community engagement and AAP	**4,000,000**
Rapid Response Mechanism	**2,637,450**
Cluster coordination	**2,041,600**
Total	**154,968,652**

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ENDNOTES

1. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Burkina Faso: 2020 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan', OCHA, July 2020.

2. Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Rehabilitation, 'Enregistrement des Personnes Deplacees Internes du Burkina Faso', 8 August 2020.

3. Burkina Faso Health Cluster, 'Compte Rendu de la Reunion Cluster Sante', 25 August 2020.

4. Burkina Faso Ministry of National Education, Literacy and Promotion of National Languages, 'Children Affected by the Closure of Schools', April 2020.

5. Burkina Faso Ministre de la Femme, de la Solidarite Nationale, de la Famille et de l'Action Humanitaire, 'Declaration a l'Occasion de la Conference de Presse sur la Situation Humanitaire', Ouagadougou, 22 September 2020.

6. Fifteen per cent is the World Health Organization (WHO) emergency threshold. United Nations Children's Fund and World Food Programme, 'Note Technique sur la Situation Nutritionnelle dans les Zones de Déplacés Internes', 2020.

7. 'Burkina Faso: 2020 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan'.

8. Ibid.

9. This was calculated using 560,950 caregivers (women/pregnant and lactating women) to be reached with infant and young child feeding counselling (1 per cent / 5,609 people with disabilities); 359,574 people to be reached with access critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies and services, including for COVID-19 prevention (adult population excluding caregivers/pregnant lactating women) (52 per cent / 186,979 women and 1 per cent / 3,596 people with disabilities); 93,993 children under 3 years with SAM to be reached with therapeutic feeding programmes (52 per cent / 48,876 girls and 1 per cent / 940 children with disabilities); 504,000 children aged 3 to 17 years to be reached with education (60 per cent / 302,400 girls and 10 per cent / 50,400 children with disabilities); 757,500 people to be reached with engagement actions for COVID-19 prevention in non-Humanitarian Response Plan regions (52 per cent / 393,900 women/girls and 1 per cent / 7,575 people with disabilities).

10. This was calculated using 93,993 children under 3 years with SAM to be reached with therapeutic feeding programmes (52 per cent / 48,876 girls and 1 per cent / 940 people with disabilities); 504,000 children to be reached with education (60 per cent / 302,400 girls and 10 per cent / 5,040 children with disabilities); and 279,662 children aged 7 to 17 to be reached with COVID-prevention in non-Humanitarian Response Plan regions (37 per cent of the overall target) (52 per cent /145,424 girls and 1 per cent / 2,797 children with disabilities). 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.

11. 'Burkina Faso: 2020 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan'.

12. UNICEF Burkina Faso, 2020.

13. 'Enregistrement des Personnes Deplacees Internes du Burkina Faso' and 'Burkina Faso: 2020 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan'.

14. 'Compte Rendu de la Reunion Cluster Sante'.

15. Burkina Faso Ministry of Health, 'Situation Epidemiologique Hebdomadaire', September 2020.

16. Burkina Faso Ministry of National Education, Literacy and Promotion of National Languages, 'Rapport Debdomadaire sur les Donnees esu a la Data du 10 Mars 2020', 10 March 2020.

17. Government of Burkina Faso, 'Communique du Gouvernement', 14 March 2020; 'Children Affected by the Closure of Schools'; 'Burkina Faso: 2020 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan'.

18. 'Burkina Faso: 2020 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan'.

19. 'Declaration a l'Occasion de la Conference de Presse sur la Situation Humanitaire'.

20. Cadre Harmonisé d'Analyse et d'Identification des Zones à Risque et d'Estimation des Populations en Insécurité Alimentaire au Sahel et en Afrique de l'Ouest, July 2020.

21. 'Note Technique sur la Situation Nutritionnelle dans les Zones de Déplacés Internes'.

22. Calculated based on the 2019 SMART Nutrition Survey.

23. 'Burkina Faso: 2020 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan'.

24. Calculated based on 'Burkina Faso: 2020 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan'.

25. This will be accomplished using 'stay and deliver' principles, which provide advice and recommendations to practitioners on critical issues, such as risk management, responsible partnerships, adherence to humanitarian principles, acceptance and negotiations with relevant actors.

26. Simplified approaches include prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition using one admission criteria – the mid-upper arm circumference measurement – and one treatment product – ready-to-use therapeutic food.

27. This will include COVID-19 protection for health workers and community-based health workers to support the continuity of care.

28. Taking into account the revised 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan WASH cluster target and the revised number of people in need, UNICEF is covering 46 per cent of the WASH cluster targets (44 per cent of the sector need) and an additional 14 per cent of the sector needs because there are no other actors with capacity to do so. Of the remaining sector needs, 32 per cent is covered by development actors and 10 per cent is not covered by any actor due to access constraints.

29. The target is based on the revised 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan and will include strengthening water systems in urban settings and localities hosting a high number of internally displaced persons.

30. 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).

31. Child protection indicators include the COVID-19 response.

32. Although the cluster has not yet defined the total number of people in need, it is likely that the current number of people in need (620,600) will increase by 20 per cent in 2021, resulting in 700,000 children in need. Given that UNICEF generally targets 50 to 70 per cent of the total number of people in need, the temporary proposal is to cover 60 per cent (420,000 children) until the 2021 inter-agency planning process is final.

33. Communication for development activities also cover COVID-19 beneficiaries across the country.

34. The population targeted is higher than the total number of people/children to be reached because the target includes mass media outreach.

35. This includes US$8,576,000 for child protection interventions; US$1,120,000 for gender-based violence interventions and US$608,00 for prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse interventions.

36. UNICEF Burkina Faso's 2017 funding requirements are embedded in the 2017 regional appeal for West and Central Africa.