



NIGER

Humanitarian Situation Report

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

31 December 2016

400,794

Children affected by SAM nationwide (HRP 2016)

79,961

Refugee children from Nigeria and returnees from Niger affected, out of

120,169

Refugees and returnees from Nigeria (Source DREC, December 2016, covering 93 sites)

80,774

Internally displaced children, out of

121,391

Internally displaced people (Source DREC, November 2016, covering 97 sites)

UNICEF Appeal 2016

US\$ 39.5 million

Requirements for Nigeria+ 2016

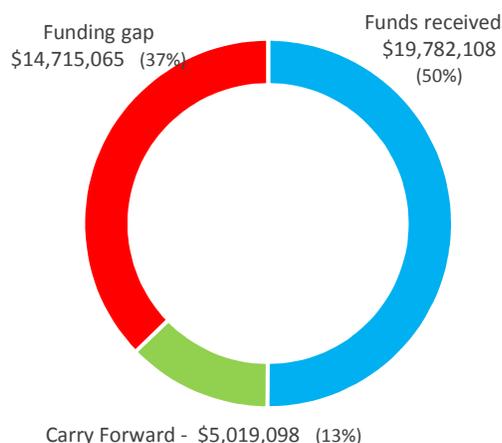
US \$14million

Highlights

- Nine security incidents were registered in Diffa in December, including attacks by ex- Boko Haram and the kidnapping of nine people (including one infant). The attacks caused a movement of 583 households towards 2 spontaneous sites.
- Children in Diffa are confronted with continuous attacks. In December one classroom was burned down, with learning materials looted; one young girl was kidnapped, which triggered the closing down of three local schools with 450 students (262 girls).
- RRM/NFI support (UNICEF/IRC) was provided to conduct one Multi-Sectoral Assessment (MSA) for new arrivals in Garin Wanzam site, and assistance to 377 households in WOR site, bringing the total of UNICEF/IRC RRM 2016 assistance to 6,376 households.
- 360,049 children under 5 suffering from SAM have been admitted in health facilities for therapeutic care across the country (89.8% of the expected 2016 caseload), including 44,947 cases with medical complications for care in in-patient facilities (IPF) in 44 hospitals (week 51).
- At the end of December, Niger has recorded 397 suspected cases of the Rift Valley fever (36% among children between 1 - 14 years old), with a case fatality rate of 8.6%. UNICEF supports a communication plan currently being implemented by an NGO partner, targeting 50,000 people from 35 villages at risk.
- A total of 1,969 cases of meningitis have been reported as of the end of December throughout the country, including 4 new cases in December. In preparation of the forthcoming epidemic season, UNICEF provided 36,450 vials of Ceftriaxone 1g to the Ministry of Health.

Results for Children

Indicators	UNICEF		Sector	
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results	Sector Target	Cumulative results
Children under-five with severe acute malnutrition admitted into therapeutic feeding programme in Diffa	14,338	12,147	14,338	12,147
School-aged girls and boys (7-14 years) with continued access to formal and non-formal education in Diffa	20,000	27,454	26,000	57,237
Men, women, girls, boys affected by the crisis in Diffa who have improved access to drinking water	20,000	85,846	194,970	170,794



*The funding graphic in the previous Sitrep included carry-forward amounts in the amounts received.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Simultaneous humanitarian crises had a major impact on affected children and families in Niger in 2016. These included displacement caused by insecurity and attacks from Boko Haram, affecting particularly the Diffa and Tillabery regions. In addition, several epidemics and outbreaks, including cholera, measles, meningitis and the Rift Valley Fever impacted populations in several regions. Food insecurity and spikes in malnutrition nationwide remained a concern throughout the year. An estimated 360,000 children were affected by severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Flooding affected over 100,000 people in various regions.

After the major attacks in June 2016 on Bosso, which caused the massive displacement of nearly 70,000 people in just a few days, the Diffa region currently hosts 241,560¹ IDPs, refugees and returnees—including an estimated 160,734 children—scattered across nearly 100 spontaneous sites. While attacks and population displacements continue to occur in the region, return-movements have also been recorded, particularly to Bosso, and as a consequence the humanitarian community is confronted with a context in which more long-term interventions, infrastructures and strategies need to increasingly accompany humanitarian interventions across all sectors. UNICEF continues to work in the provision of emergency assistance within the context of broader longer-term sectoral strategies, in partnership with government, humanitarian and development actors, alongside continued advocacy with partners, government and donors for an increased focus on longer-term strategies and investments.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF led in 2016 the Education and WASH Clusters and the Child Protection sub Cluster in close collaboration with government counterparts in Niamey, and supported the government in guaranteeing the efficient leadership of the Nutrition working group. In Diffa, UNICEF supported regional authorities for the timely and efficient management of sectoral working groups.

Estimated Affected Population Based on HRP and HNO 2016	Total	Male*	Female
Total Affected Population	2,000,000	960,000	1,040,000
Children Affected (Under 18)	1,100,000	528,000	572,000
Children Under Five*	429,000	205,920	223,080
Children 6 to 23 months**	131,200	62,976	68,224
Pregnant women***	100,000	-	100,000
Children Under Five with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) at national level	400,794	192,381	208,413
Children Under Five with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in Diffa region (Nigeria + crisis)	14,338	6,882	7,456
Refugees from Nigeria	105,491	50,636	54,855
Refugee children from Nigeria (0-17 years old) ****	70,194	33,693	36,501
Returnees from Nigeria	14,678	7,045	7,633
Returnees children from Nigeria (0-17 years old) ****	9,767	4,688	5,079
Internally displaced people in Diffa region	121,391	58,268	63,123
Internally displaced children (0-17 years old) ****	80,774	38,771	42,002

Proxy calculated based on percentages from: * Proxy DRSP 2016, 21.45%; ** Proxy DRSP 2016, 6.56%; *** Proxy DRSP 5%; **** Proxy DREC, December 2016, 66.54%

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF supports the Government's efforts to coordinate with line ministries and NGOs to expand essential services to emergency-affected populations through community-based interventions, including nutrition, health, WASH, education and child protection networks. The offices in Diffa, Maradi and Agadez allow UNICEF to immediately alert, evaluate and monitor the humanitarian situation affecting children and women, thereby strengthening the humanitarian response, while guaranteeing the link with regular programmes, the regular monitoring of interventions and the proximity with decentralised structures for a constant coaching and technical support.

¹ Direction Regional Etat Civile Diffa, December 2016 – 93 sites

Summary Analysis of Programme response

Nigeria Crisis Response



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In 2016 UNICEF provided WASH support to 516,478 people affected by the four crises across Niger, against a target of 562,881 people (92%) through the mobilization of 85% of the required funding. This included 454,138 people affected by the Boko Haram attacks in the Diffa Region (against a target of 305,931). The target for access to drinkable water for Diffa was largely overpassed, with 85,846 people reached out of the initial 20,000 planned, largely due to the massive response to the June crisis. Cholera prevention and response activities, including distribution of hygiene kits, reached 281,822 people, including 250,726 people in Diffa.

In December, UNICEF and implementing partners provided access to safe water to 17,133 people, including 5,000 additional people through the construction of boreholes and to 12,133 people who have been continuously supported since July through water-trucking. 2,000 people have benefitted from access to sanitation through the construction of 10 blocks of two durable latrines and 10 other blocks of two emergency latrines. 29,044 people participated in sensitization activities on hygiene practices and benefitted from hygiene kits.



Nutrition

As the end of December (epidemiological week 52), 12,309 under-5 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) have been admitted into the rehabilitation centers (in both outpatient and inpatient programmes) of the Diffa region, including 1,648 cases with medical complications. Compared to 2015, we observed a 26% decrease in new SAM admissions in Diffa region of at the outpatient (OTP) level (4,219 children), while there was an increase of 3% in the inpatient (IPF) level (170 children). The analysis of monthly reports from January to December shows that performance indicators conform to international minimum standards with recovery rate of 93%, a death rate of less than 1% and a default rate of 2%. Within inpatient facilities, a recovery rate of 96.1%, a death rate of about 2.2% and a default rate of 1% was recorded, while among those treated through outpatient facilities, we noted a recovery rate of 92.9%, a death rate of less than 1% and a default rate of 2.6%.



Health

In 2016, Niger in general and Diffa in particular, faced several health emergencies. In Diffa, the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with MSF, UNICEF and other partners, carried out vaccination campaigns against measles as a preventative measure, but also in response to the 1,342 reported cases in the region. As a result, 420,829 children aged 9 months – 14 years were vaccinated. This result is substantially higher than the targeted 100,000 children expected for the year, and this is due to the consequences of continuous population movements and lower coverage of routine campaigns, as well as to the higher funding received.

UNICEF continued to provide essential medicines for children under five for the treatment of malaria, diarrhoea and respiratory infections to 37 health facilities and through mobile clinics in Diffa region. As of the end of December, 154,843 children out of a target of 70,000 children under five had utilized health services, and 13,632 children out of a target of 40,000 children benefitted from mobile health services. Unfortunately the implementation of mobile clinics started late due to administrative constraints and the target was not achieved, but as of September 2016 the process was launched and is regularly implemented.



Education

In December, education actors have facilitated the access to formal and formal education for an additional 1,390 children (7-14 years old) in Diffa, including children through UNICEF and its partners. This brings the total number of children of this same age group in Diffa with access to formal and non-formal education from January to December to 57,237, out of whom 27,454 children have received access through UNICEF and its partners. The 238 schools newly set up in Diffa will provide access to education to 19,020 children from the host community (8,670 girls), 3,803 children who are returnees (1,604 girls), 10,395 internally displaced children (4,609 girls), and 9,135 refugee children (4,102 girls).

In order to meet the continuing educational needs of children in Diffa, the following major constraints will require corrective action in 2017:

1. Insufficient TLS and teachers in the Garin Wanzam site, where new displaced people arrived and the rate of children out-of-school is estimated at 58%, according to the recent multi-sectoral assessment (MSA) from IRC / UNICEF RRM of end December, in order to conform to the standards of 50 students / classroom
2. The continuation of teachers' strike which weakens the quality of education.
3. Insufficient clarity on the actual number of out-of-school children.
4. Continued attacks and closing of classrooms. In December, one class was burned, learning materials looted, a young girl was kidnapped and later found, and 3 local schools were closed due to insecurity with 450 students (262 girls). The schools reopened after a couple of days, with the exception of the one in Boudoum which remains closed. UNICEF is collaborating with the members of the education group and the DREP to collect more systematic information and support the DREP and the closed schools to reopen.

To address these constraints, UNICEF has put in place a number of actions:

1. Increase the number of emergency classrooms in the Garin Wanzam site.
2. Continued advocacy with the Ministry for the payment of teachers' salaries and the release of funds to promote quality and inclusive access.
3. The development of a partnership with an NGO specialized in data management to provide technical support to the education cluster and contacts with the global cluster in order to address the issue of out-of-schools data.
4. Continued advocacy for the security in the region and diligent reporting of all cases of violations such as attacks on schools (Resolution 1612).



Child Protection

In 2016, 57,581 children benefitted from recreational activities and psychosocial support in 62 Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS), where those needing psychosocial support were identified and referred. Among the 62 CFS, 14 are dedicated to children and teenagers aged 9 to 17, where literacy training is also provided. The targeted number of children benefitting from CFS was exceeded by almost 50% (57,581 vs. 40,000). This is because the programme received more funding than requested in the 2016 Humanitarian Appeal, which made it possible to set up a greater number of Child Friendly Spaces. In addition CFS are being used beyond capacity, which is a sign of their relevance to the situation the children are facing.

Thanks to a funding level 90% over the target (USD 3,175,084 against a requirement of USD 1,668,671), UNICEF's implementing partners were able to develop and implement a wider range of interventions including Child Friendly Spaces dedicated to adolescents, Youth Peer Educators' Committees, Women's Gender-Based Violence Support Groups, Child Protection Community-Based Committees, as well as guidebooks for community leaders and volunteers and radio messages to raise awareness about child protection prevention and response. The multi-sector and multi-agency referral system was strengthened so that children in need of specific support detected or reported were referred to a wider range of services. Twenty-seven youth peer educators' committees have been conducting awareness-raising activities on child protection prevention and response, as well as detecting, mediating or reporting cases to competent authorities. Fifteen Women's Sexual and Gender Based Violence Support Groups have been raising awareness about the issue and supporting and referring SGBV survivors. 368 community-based child protection mechanisms conducted a total of 231 awareness-raising activities on child protection risks and responses. Key messages were broadcast through 1 public, 1 private and 9 local radio stations.

To respond to the needs of children facing neglect, abuse and exploitation, 553 child victims of neglect, abuse or exploitation were identified and referred for follow-up care by implementing NGO partners COOPI and IRC. 98 survivors of sexual violence, including 34 children (6 aged 0-11 years; 28 aged 12-17 years) were reached and received psychosocial support. In addition, two women received assistance to access justice, and 53 received livelihood support.

To strengthen response to family separation, 10 social workers, recruited by UNICEF implementing partner the Child Protection Regional Directorate (DRPE), have identified 188 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), among whom 146 separated and 42 unaccompanied. A total of 322 children in spontaneous or formal host families have been supported by UNICEF implementing partners through economic and psychosocial support as well as medical care, while their families are being traced. The number of unaccompanied or separated children identified and taken care of by UNICEF implementing partner, DREP, is lower than the target (322 vs. 600) because of capacity issues. There is a shortage of qualified social workers in Niger, the 10 social workers recruited by the Directorate specifically for that purpose had to be trained and to gain practical experience before being fully operational. In addition, the prohibition of motorcycles for security reasons limited their mobility.

On 8 December, training on integration of Mine Risk Education in awareness-raising activities was conducted by a UNICEF Headquarters Mine Action Specialist for 46 Child Protection actors in Diffa, including members of Defense and Security Forces.

Sahel Nutrition Crisis Response

As of December 31, 2016 (epidemiological week 52), a total number of 365,498 under-5 children (190,059 girls and 175,439 boys) suffering from SAM had been admitted to the nutritional rehabilitation program at national level. This represents 91.2% of the expected 2016 caseload, and includes 45,517 cases with medical complications (12.5%) in in-patient facilities (IPF)^[1] and 319,981 SAM children without complications admitted in Outpatient Therapeutic Programmes (OTP – 87.5%). Compared to 2015, we observed a reduction in new SAM admissions of 5% at the IPF level (2,576 children) and an increase of 5% in the OTP level (13,887 children).

The analysis of monthly reports from January to December (completeness of 85%) shows that performance indicators conform to the International standards with recovery rate of 89.8%, a death rate of 1.2% and a default rate of 5.1%. At IPF level: a recovered rate: 91.6%, a death rate: 5.5% and a default rate: 1.6% while at OTP level, we noted a recovery rate of 89.5%, a death rate of less than 1% and a default rate: 5.7%.

For the nutritional crisis, 23,744 people including 3,392 children with SAM had also received support through the provision of a WASH minimum package, out of a target of 158,221 people.

Media and External Communication

In December, UNICEF hosted the visit of UNICEF Belgium who travelled to Diffa area with a journalist from Het Nieuwsblad, a professional photographer, and the recipient of the UNICEF Belgium Young Journalist Award (<https://www.unicef.be/nl/youngjournalistaward/>). The delegation covered UNICEF's response to the humanitarian crisis and met with women and children who fled the conflict, including in the Bosso area. In addition, the team had the occasion to understand the strategies in place to prevent and treat severe acute malnutrition cases among the children under-five years old living in the Maradi area, one of the most deeply affected regions. Advocacy focused on ensuring that sufficient attention and resources are devoted to tackle underlying and basic causes in order to prevent nutrition crises in the future.

Back in Diffa, UNICEF facilitated a photography project on the Basin funded by the Open Society Initiative of West Africa (OSIWA), with a photographer working on Niger and Chad – and potentially in Nigeria and Cameroon once more funding is secured. The journalist, also freelancing for the Washington Post, not solely focused on the Boko Haram angle but on the tens of millions of people relying on the Lake for their livelihood while a growing IDP and refugee crisis has put a major strain on the surrounding environment, as well as Boko Haram's disruption of any activities that would provide for the families and the many households they are hosting.

Security

In Diffa, 7 security incidents were reported in December 2016, bringing the total number for the year to 114 incidents, with 206 civilian casualties (5 children) and 94 security forces' casualties. Since the beginning of the attacks in Niger territory in February 2015, OCHA estimates that over 440 people have been killed, injured or kidnapped in Diffa region, with over 70% of those killed in the department of Bosso alone. The Multi National Joint Task Force continued its counter-terrorist operations in the Lake Chad area, where the operational context for UN Agencies remains precarious.

The year closes with also continuous security challenges in the western and north-western Niger (Tillabéri and Tahoua regions, where violent extremist groups operating in Mali carried out in the second half of the year, including a number of hostile operations, one of which had resulted in mass casualties.

Funding

UNICEF's funding requirement for emergency response in Niger was US\$ 39.5 million. The humanitarian funding available is US\$ 24.8 million (which includes carried over funds of US\$ 5 million) with a funding gap of 37 per cent. Education remains critically underfunded at 72 per cent along with nutrition at 61%. Health, child protection and cluster/sector coordination have surpassed stated funding requirements due to reallocation of funding and additional funding received after the major June crisis, including CERF RR funding.

^[1] IPF = In-Patient Facility (CRENI au Niger); OTP= Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (CRENAS au Niger); SFP= Supplementary Feeding Programme (CRENAM au Niger)

Funding Requirements as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 2016 for Niger				
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available	Funding gap	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Nutrition	27,500,000	10,961,685	16,538,315	60%
Health	980,000	1,375,973	(395,973)	-40%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	5,217,600	4,418,861	798,739	15%
Child Protection	1,668,671	3,364,070	(1,695,399)	-102%
Education	3,000,000	845,961	2,154,039	72%
HIV and AIDS	150,000	-	150,000	100%
Cluster/Sector Coordination	1,000,000	3,180,751	(2,180,751)	-218%
Programme Support		653,906		
Total	39,516,271	24,801,206	14,715,065	37%

* 'Funds received' does not include pledges and EPF loan balance in the amount of \$ 580,800 (to be reimbursed before the end of 2016) is not included. Carry-forward from 2015 is included.

Next SitRep: March 2017

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Annex A

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

Nigeria Crisis Response

Sector	Cluster Response				UNICEF and IPs		
	Overall needs	2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼	2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE							
# of men, women, girls, boys affected by the crisis in Diffa who have improved access to drinking water	279,144	194,970	170,194	13,300 ▲	20,000	85,846	5,000 ▲
# of people affected by the crisis in Diffa with access to sanitation infrastructure taking into account accessibility for children, and the specific needs of women and men	279,144	268,605	86,211	3,800 ▲	71,495	55,286	2,000 ▲
# of people affected by the crisis in Diffa having access to hygiene kits and sensitization activities	558,289	537,211	545,830	35,250 ▲	305,931	454,138	29,044 ▲
EDUCATION							
# of school-aged girls and boys (7-14 years) with continued access to formal and non-formal education in Diffa	210,000	26,000	57,237	1,390 ▲	20,000	27,454	100 ▲
HEALTH							
# of children aged 9 month-14 years old vaccinated against measles					100,000	420,829	=
# of under five years old who utilized health services (pneumonia, diarrhoea and malaria)					70,000	154,843	1,990 ▲
# of children who have access to life-saving interventions through outreach community-based activities (mobile clinics)					40,000	13,632	6,705 ▲
NUTRITION							
# of children under-five with severe acute malnutrition admitted into therapeutic feeding programme in Diffa		14,338	12,309	690 ▲	14,338	12,309	690 ▲
# of Health Centres with an integrated nutrition program		51	50	=	51	50	=
CHILD PROTECTION							
# of children who are benefiting from psychosocial support through community-based recreational and socio-educational activities ²		62,905	102,372	4,918 ▲	40,000	57,581	=
# of separated and/or unaccompanied children identified, documented and benefitting and placed in alternative care arrangements and / or who benefitted from individual follow up		1,318	1,072	50 ▲	600	322	20 ▲

² Data collection tools are under revision. Figures for 2017 will be calculated based on a different approach. Meanwhile, the decision has been taken to maintain the figure for the rest of the year at 57,781, while reporting on the number of CFS functioning in the whole region

Sahel Nutrition Crisis Response

Sector	Overall needs	Cluster Response			UNICEF and IPs		
		2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼	2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE							
# of nutritional centres delivering the WASH minimum package	490	334	78	=	144	75	=
# of malnourished children admitted for SAM/MAM and benefiting WASH minimum package in the community	368,114	122,286	8,714	168▲	22,603	3,382	168▲
HEALTH							
# of children in humanitarian situation aged 0-11 months vaccinated against measles	1,013,382				1,013,382	823,019 ³	71,620 ▲
NUTRITION							
# of children under-five with severe acute malnutrition admitted into therapeutic feeding programme	400,794	400,794	365,498	57,558 ▲	400,794	365,498	57,558 ⁴ ▲
% of children under 5 year suffering of SAM discharged as recovered	At least 75%	At least 75%	89.8%	0.6% ▲	At least 75%	89.8%	0.6% ▲
# of Health Centres with an integrated nutrition program	922	922	922	=	922	922	=
CHILD PROTECTION							
Couples malnourished children/caregivers who receive psychosocial support in CRENI and CRENAs	16,519	16,519	39,856	=	NA	NA	NA

³ Source : DVD-MT end of October 2016

⁴ The major difference is due to the fact that the Regional Directorate for Health of Maradi and Zinder carried out a verification of the MDO database