

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

During the reporting period, the number of confirmed cases has grown by 180% compared to the previous SitRep. The number of total cases increased to 564 during the reporting period while 25 cases have recovered and there were 2 deaths, bringing the number of active cases to 537. Male continued to be more affected than female and the age group with more cases continues to be those 25-44 years old.

The National Health Emergency Committee, under the Ministry of Health, continues to lead the response, supported by the UN system and other partners like IMVF, Red Cross and Médecins Sans Frontières. In support of the National Contingency Plan, the UN has developed a UN joint COVID-19 Operational Support Plan. Within the support plan, UNICEF leads the UN interagency Task Force on risk communication and community engagement in support of the response and in close coordination with the National Health Emergency Committee.

In support to the National Contingency Plan for COVID-19, UNICEF response strategy and interventions focus on the following:

- Risk communication and community engagement and C4D
- WASH and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures;
- Health – Continuous access to health services, capacity strengthening of medical personnel and provision of medical consumables, essential drugs and equipment;
- Education: provision of distance education and support to education sector response and recovery
- Child Protection: Psychosocial support and continuous access to child protection services;
- Procurement and logistics

Situation in Numbers



564 total cases

2 deaths



Around 300,000
Children affected
by COVID-19
school closures



US\$ 2,48 M
funding
required

UNICEF's COVID-19 response

Health

UNICEF works with the Ministry of Health to ensure continued access to essential health and nutrition services for women, children and vulnerable communities, including immunization, prenatal and postnatal care, HIV care and nutritional services. Training of Community Health Workers of the remaining regions is under preparation as well as training of health technicians on case management at regional level. UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Health mobilizing funds to face the pandemic, namely, by requesting the reallocation of funds from GAVI support to health system strengthening.

WASH

The installation of handwashing stations continues across the 960 targeted communities. Up until May 8th, 108 communities in Oio had been visited, totaling a population of 15081 persons. Handwashing programming for WASH in healthcare facilities is under development for immediate rollout.

RCCE/C4D

UNICEF continued to partner with the National Red Cross to carry out door to door sensitization activities. In the capital Bissau, the worst-hit of the country, 8,811 people have been reached these activities during the reporting period, with a cumulative number of 56,666 people reached. In addition, UNICEF pursued its support to the outreach sensitization activities, which have been extended on April 28 to two additional regions, which currently register coronavirus cases (Biombo and Cacheu). In these two regions, 14,151 have been reached these activities during the reporting period, with a cumulative number of 17,535 people reached with preventive messaging. On May 3, the video of the national coronavirus song, performed by 10 famous Bissau-Guinean singers, has been released. It has been prepared in partnership with the Secretary of State for Social Communication and is already being aired countrywide, through UNICEF-supported national television, raising awareness of the population on how to prevent coronavirus. Social media posts on COVID-19 have reached 519,809 people, being Facebook the most used platform.

Education

Since April 11, UNICEF is partnering with the National television and 29 national and community radios to broadcast programmes on early learning for young children, parents, and caregivers three times each day. In partnership with the NGO “Animar para Educar”, the Education section continues to work on the production of audio-visual materials to support the continuity of learning for preschool and early years of basic education. In addition, UNICEF as coordinating agency for the sector, is supporting the Ministry of Education in the finalization of the Education Sector Response Plan and the preparation of a proposal for the GPE accelerated financing for COVID-19.

Child protection

UNICEF continued to support the emergency response project for children without parental or family care, especially talibé children. UNICEF continued supporting the Government social services in regular monitoring visits to 985 talibé children without parental care in Bissau. Follow up on the COVID-19 kits distributed to the children lately, as well as on their living conditions, continued. The Government and SCOs have provided

food items to 15 of these centers. During the reporting period, 5 of these were monitored. Assistance to child protection partners to address cases of violence against children continued. Despite the country lockdown, some government services have no mobility restrictions to travel in and out of the capital. During this week 2 cases of forced child marriage and 3 cases of neglect were reported and managed. Capacity building sessions with partners on the Protection of Children during the Coronavirus Pandemic took place.

Supplies

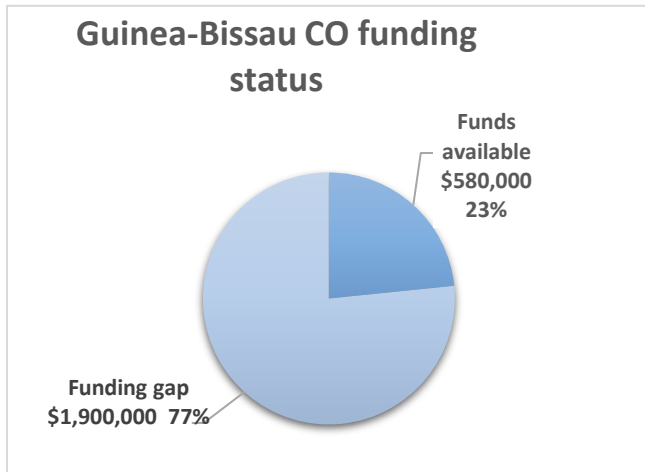
UNICEF has placed an order for medical equipment and supplies for the isolation ward located in the National Hospital Simao Mendes. An initial delivery of medical supplies has been handed over to the Hospital while the rest of the order is received. In addition, 20,000 hand-made masks are being purchased for distribution among the population and at-risk groups. Masks have been already distributed among journalists (300), among policemen (2,000) and among military personnel (1,000). UNICEF has procured 10 oxygen concentrators, waiting for arrival in Bissau.

Adaptations to ongoing UNICEF programmes

UNICEF development programmes have been adapted to the COVID-19 context by reformulating some activities, by using programme resources to enhance COVID-19 interventions or by adding sensitization on COVID-19 prevention to our current programmes.

- **Community health programme:** Community Health Workers (CHWs) are receiving additional training on COVID-19 prevention so that they can add COVID-19 prevention to the 16 Key Family Practices that they promote and support in the identification of suspect cases as well as contact tracing at the regional level. CHWs will soon be provided with protective equipment (gloves, masks and gowns) to adequately equip them in the COVID-19 context.
- **Adolescent girl’s empowerment programme:** that is implemented in the regions of Gabu and Bafata, is also adapting its interventions by focusing life skills training on the prevention of COVID-19 in their communities and by organizing the communication training and production of communication materials on COVID-19.
- **Ensuring continuous access to vaccination:** UNICEF also continues supporting MoH on vaccine stock management at central and regional level, by support the adaptation of the vaccine distribution plan and strategy (change from Pull System to Push System) thus, reducing the risk of displacement of staff from the regional level to the capital city where most cases of COVID-19 are concentrated
- **Nutrition:** UNICEF is sharing information and guidelines to support the continuity of SAM services and breastfeeding in the context of COVID-19. While the therapeutic foods are delivered directly to the Nutrition Direction at central level, their regular distribution to the health center involve NGOs and CHWs.
- **Birth Registration:** To strengthen the Birth registration response in times of confinement, UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Justice to ensure that open civil registration services are in line with the security measures for the COVID-Response. A mapping of all the services that are operational since the confinement was done with UNICEF assistance. Currently, 26 services (out of 54) are functioning, from which 12 (out of 24) services operating in health facilities. Provision of COVID-19 hygienic kits to these services will be ensured in coming weeks.
- **Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM):** During the reporting period, and with UNICEF support, COVID-19 community awareness activities took place in 109 communities from Gabu, Tombali, Oio, Cacheu, Quinara regions and Autonomous Sector of Bissau. Apart from awareness messages on COVID-19 prevention, the local community animators are also raising awareness on stigma prevention, gender-based violence prevention, including FGM and child marriage. 3,800 people were reached. Next steps will be the development of radio programmes and the broadcast of key messages targeting FGM programme communities.

Funding Overview and Partnerships



The Guinea-Bissau CO has contributed to the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan with a request of USD 2.48 million for preparedness and response needs. UNICEF Guinea-Bissau has redirected \$US 200,000 of its own resources to the response. The office also received US\$ 70,000 provided by the Education Sector Plan Development Grant (ESPDG) from GPE, US\$ 67,000 from GAVI, US\$ 100,000 from the Regional Office Emergency Fund and US\$ 100,000 from the MPTF COVID-19 Response and Recovery fund.

Current resource mobilization efforts include the preparation of funding proposals to the GPE COVID-19 Accelerated Funding window (up to US\$ 5,000,000), to the African Development Bank jointly with WHO (US\$ 1,000,000) and the reallocation of GAVI Health System Strengthening funds (up to US\$ 300,000).

External Media

Videos produced by the young reporters' network, supported by UNICEF:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVa6HU48w7Y>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pTEWSnuyet8>

A monitoring dashboard for WASH interventions has been created and can be seen through this link

https://bit.ly/GNB_covid19_unicef_WASH

Link for the video of the national coronavirus song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFZNw6yzhkw>

UNICEF Guinea-Bissau social media pages:

[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and www.unicef.org/guineabissau

Sensitization activities through Bissau door-to-door and at the main markets, including distribution of hand-made masks:



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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

Sector	UNICEF and IPs Response	
	2020 target	Total results
Risk Communication and Community Engagement		
RCCE 1: Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services	1,600,000	1,086,028
RCCE 2: Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions	5,421	935
WASH and IPC		
IPC 1: Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	239,000	15,081
IPC 2: Number of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	4,338	0
IPC 3: Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control	4,338	190
Health		
Continuity of Health Care 1: Number of healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases among children, pregnant and breastfeeding women	440	440
Child Protection and GBV		
Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 3: Number of children without parental or family care provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements	200	45
Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 4: Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support	1,100	150
Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 5: Number of UNICEF personnel and partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation and referrals for survivors	150	65

Annex B

Funding Status

Sector	Funding requirements	Funds available	Funding gap \$	Gap %
C4D / RCCE	50,000	62,000	-12,000	0%
WASH & IPC	800,000	80,000	720,000	90%
Social Protection	800,000	86,000	714,000	89%
Health	310,000	225,000	85,000	27%
Child Protection	120,000	40,000	80,000	67%
Social Sciences Research	50,000	-	50,000	100%
Operational and staff costs	100,000	17,000	83,000	83%
Education	250,000	70,000	180,000	72%
Total	2,480,000	580,000	1,900,000	77%