



Situation in Numbers

 2,447 total cases
45 deaths

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

 US\$ 3,2 M
funding
required

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

As of end of December, Guinea-Bissau has recorded 2,447 cases. Of these confirmed cases, 2,080 (86%) are in Bissau, the capital. Ten (10) regions out of the 11 in the country have confirmed COVID-19 cases. The death toll is 45 people, representing a fatality rate of 1.83%. The country continues to have more cases amongst males, 38% of confirmed COVID-19 cases are amongst females while 62% are amongst males.

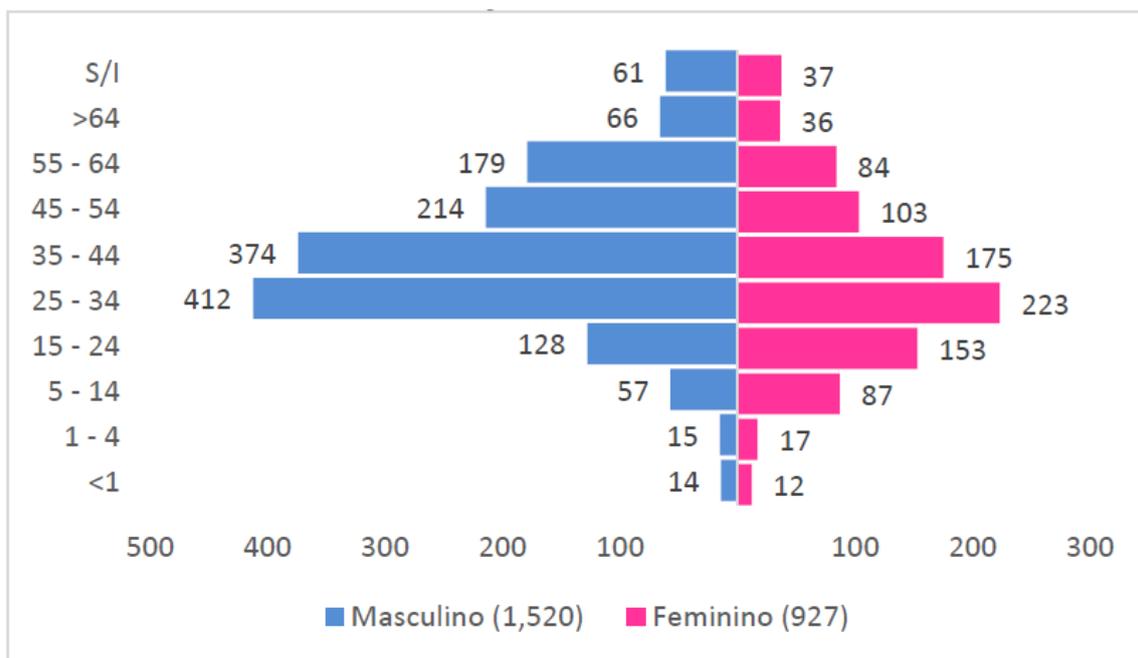


Figure1: Age and sex distribution among confirmed COVID-19 cases

UNICEF COVID-19 response

WASH

Support to health centers

Following the installation of foot-operated handwashing devices in the regions of Bafatá, Gabu, Cachéu, Oio and Biombo, follow-up visits were made to the 42 targeted health centers to ensure that handwashing devices were functioning well and were properly used. Infection prevention and control (IPC) indicators were collected as part of the WASH-FIT implemented in the centers. The results of this survey will be used to identify critical points for WASH and IPC and inform the action plan to ensure better functioning of the Health Centers' WASH facilities.

During the reporting period, 57 health center staff, of which 26 were female, were trained, including nurses and staff responsible for cleaning activities. During the training, COVID-19 IPC measures were reinforced, with focus on correct hand hygiene and cleaning and disinfection. The use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was also reinforced during the training session.

Support to schools

The training on IPC for all teachers of the 1500 targeted schools has been completed during the reporting period. Partnerships with various NGOs that will support IPC activities in and around the schools have been concluded. The interventions will focus on the installation of handwashing facilities and the correct use of cleaning equipment and detergents. Infrared thermometers, first aid kits and masks will be delivered to all schools and the partners will train staff and children on how and when to use the equipment. The training of the teams is under preparation and the distribution activity will start once the school reopens after the holiday session in early January.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement/C4D

The coronavirus preventive communication contents continued to be aired through UNICEF traditional media partners (national television, national newspaper, and 30 national and community-based radios countrywide). These contents are available in the most used local languages of the country. Through these media outlets, 1.6 million people have been reached countrywide. During the reporting period, UNICEF social media platforms have reached 102.213 comments/reactions.

Within the scope of the partnership with the NGO-National Committee of Volunteers of Guinea-Bissau,

social mobilization, risk communication and community engagement in fighting the pandemic were organized in the border communities of Farim and Cacine in the regions of Oio and Tombali. 36 trained volunteers, including traditional leaders, village chiefs carried out these activities in 79 communities reaching a total of 6,580 households.

Education

During the reporting period UNICEF continued to support the implementation of the National education sector contingency plan in response to COVID-19. Two meetings of the Technical Committee for the Implementation of the Contingency Plan were held aiming at coordinating activities among all partners.

As part of the "Back to School Campaign" a sketch, radiophonic theatre, a radio program and audio spots were produced. The second part of this campaign is scheduled for January 2021 through a partnership between UNICEF, the Ministry of Education, the National Confederation of Students and the National Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations. The aim of the campaign is to sensitize children, young people and their families to the importance of going back to school, on the one hand, and on the other hand, to reinforce information about coronavirus and prevention measure in and around schools.

Moreover, during the reporting period, UNICEF successfully supported the adaptation workshops of the full package of the "Children Radio Foundation lessons". The lessons translated to Portuguese have been improved to take into account the context of the country and are ready for recording.

Social inclusion and cash transfers

UNICEF/WFP cash transfer programme provided the third payment of 40,000 CFA to households identified as highly vulnerable to the socio-economic impact of COVID-19. Overall 1,500 households have been identified across Sao Domingos, Quinhamel, Bissora, Mansaba, Sonaco, SAB, Bula, Cacheu and Bigene.

UNICEF also started implementation of another cash transfer programme funded by the Global Partnership for Education. The programme will support vulnerable families affected by COVID with cash in order to incentivize parents to maintain their children at school and reduce the risk of students dropping out.

The programme is implemented in 10 sectors (Xitole, Galomaro, Gamamundo, Contuboeil, Gabu, Boe, Piche,

Farim, Mansaba, Bissora) of the regions with the worst education outcomes according to the latest MICS survey (regions of Oio, Gabu and Bafata). Some of our NGO partners will be supporting the project on (i) household targeting, (ii) data collection for the baseline and end line surveys as well and satisfaction surveys

and satisfaction assessment, (iii) Registration and distribution of SIM cards and mobile phones to the families and (iv) organization of payment sessions (organization of communities, etc.). It is planned that the NGOs start their work in January 2021.

Adaptations to ongoing UNICEF programmes

Child Protection

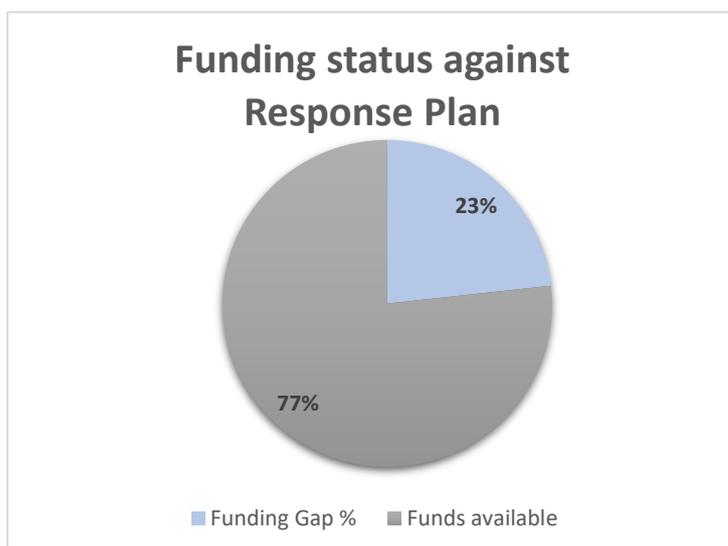
Community mobilization to end Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and child marriage continued during the month of December. 128 communities from 6 country regions (out of 9 regions) are actively engaged in discussing violence prevention among children and women, including gender-based violence (GBV), such FGM. The radio programmes and the door to door awareness raising are ongoing, while community dialogue sessions have increased since October, when COVID-19 cases started to decrease, and movement restrictions were lifted. Also, during the reporting period, UNICEF, jointly with other UN agencies and partners, supported the celebration of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence. A set of awareness-raising session on FGM and child marriage took place in 8 high-schools of Bissau, reaching 1,200 students. In addition, a communication campaign, information on GBV prevention and referral mechanisms to access assistance and care services was launched through social media, mobile companies, radios and TV.

Immunization

Due to COVID-19 context, the immunization coverage has been very low in 2020: only 27% of districts that have at least 80% of children 0-11 months vaccinated with 3 doses of DTP-containing/Penta vaccine, 69% of children <1 year have received measles containing vaccines at national level, and 74% of children 0-11 months have been vaccinated with 3 doses of DTP-containing/Penta vaccine nationally. Together with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF requested a reallocation of funds from GAVI, initially dedicated to technical assistance, to be used for intensification of routine activities. This fund amounting \$94,000 will cover activities countrywide starting early January 2021.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF Guinea-Bissau has contributed to the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan with a request of USD 3.2 million for preparedness and response needs. The country office has redirected \$US 270,000 of its own regular resources to the response. The office also received US\$ 70,000 provided by the Education Sector Plan Development Grant (ESPDG) from GPE, US\$ 3,500,000 from GPE COVID-19 Accelerated funding (as coordinator of the Education Sector partners), reallocation of US\$ 191,000 from GAVI, US\$ 100,000 from the UNICEF Regional Office Emergency Fund, US\$ 268,000 from UNICEF Thematic Humanitarian fund, US\$ 100,000 from the MPTF COVID-19 Response and Recovery fund and US\$ 51,100 from Portuguese Cooperation.



Current resource mobilization efforts include the negotiation of a tripartite agreement with the High Commission for COVID-19 and the African Development Bank of a two-year project focusing on community-based interventions and strengthening of the health system.

EXTERNAL MEDIA

MEDIA ARTICLES

UNICEF doa materiais de combate a pandemia ao Ministério da Saúde Pública:

http://angnoticias.blogspot.com/2020/06/covid-19-unicef-doa-materiais-de_5.html?m=1

UNICEF oferece materiais para prevenção ao Ministério da Justiça:

<http://angnoticias.blogspot.com/2020/06/covid-19-unicefofrece-para-prevencao.html#links>

COVID-19: alta comissária critica fraco uso de máscaras e pouco cumprimento de medidas de prevenção

<https://www.odemocratagb.com/?p=27036>

SOCIAL MEDIA

UNICEF Guinea-Bissau social media pages:

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

UNICEF Guinea-Bissau dedicated webpage for coronavirus content in Portuguese:

<https://www.unicef.org/guineabissau/pt/coronavirus-na-guine-bissau>

WEBSITE PAGES

[Tudo o que você precisa saber sobre como lavar as mãos para se proteger contra o coronavírus;](#)

[Principais Mensagens e Ações para a Prevenção do Coronavírus \(Covid-19\) em Escolas;](#)

[Marco de ação e recomendações para a reabertura de escolas](#)

[Covid-19: UNICEF makes available guidance to protect children and support safe school operations](#)

VIDEOS

New video: Weekly media briefing from WHO's Representative on the current epidemiological situation in the country, as well as, the UN's response to the coronavirus pandemic

<https://www.facebook.com/ONUGuineBissau/videos/1209216139427848/>

UNICEF donation of essential medical drugs & supplies for #COVID19 response

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMOvEPEhE6c>

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

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

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

<https://youtu.be/Mtgn1yQZ7ok>

<https://youtu.be/l6sCpWWRYXQ>

UN COVID-19 sensitization video on the use of the mask: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62yazoG5Ygc>

Summary of 3 months #COVID19 risk communication activities in Guinea-Bissau

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uBVBU_9aEpE

MUSIC

National coronavirus song produced with support from the UN: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFZNw6yzhkw>

WASH DASHBOARD

Monitoring dashboard for COVID-19 WASH interventions: https://bit.ly/GNB_covid19_unicef_WASH

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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	2,000,000	1,822,629
RCCE 2: Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions	91,350	96,215
WASH and IPC		
IPC 1: Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	500,000	Total 387,776 Male 186,133 Female 201,643
IPC 2: Number of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	4,338	-
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	159
Continuity of Health Care 4: Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM)	1,547	802
Child Protection and GBV		
Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 1: Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning	500,000	Total: 319,176 (0-5 y) Male: 163,416 Female: 155,760
Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 2: Number of schools implementing safe school protocols (COVID-19 prevention and control)	1,500	1,500
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	Total: 165 Male: 0 / 0-17y: 151 Female: 5 / 0-17y: 9
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	32,000	Total: 34,266 Male: 9,399 / 0-17y: 6,498 Female: 10,837 / 0-17y: 7,532
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	195
Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 6: Number of children and adults that have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse	50,000	Total: 51,820 Male: 16,265 / 0-17y: 6,585 Female: 21,235 / 0-17y: 7,735
Social Protection		
Indicator 1: Number of households receiving HUMANITARIAN CASH TRANSFERS through UNICEF response to COVID-19	2,600	1,500

Annex B

Funding Status

Sector	Funding requirements	Funds available	Funding gap \$	Funding Gap %
C4D / RCCE	170,000	306,000	0	0%
WASH & IPC	800,000	285,000	515,000	64%
Social Protection	800,000	825,000	0	0%
Health	710,000	551,311	158,689	22%
Child Protection	120,000	370,100	0	0%
Social Sciences Research	50,000	-	50,000	100%
Operational and staff costs	100,000	77,000	23,000	23%
Education	450,000	1,883,000	0	0%
Total	3,200,000	4,297,411	746,689	23%