

Situation in Numbers



2,205 total cases  
34 deaths



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



US\$ 3,2 M  
funding required



### Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

As of 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020, Guinea-Bissau has recorded 2,205 cases. Of these confirmed cases, 1,928 (87%) are in Bissau, the capital. Nine (10) regions out of the 11 in the country now have confirmed COVID-19 cases with a recently confirmed case in Bolama. The death toll is 34 people, representing a fatality rate of 1.5%. Among the confirmed cases, 268 (12.7%) are healthcare workers. The country continues to have more cases amongst males 1,240 (56%) compared to females. The age group of 25-34 years remains the most affected by the virus with 459 confirmed (21%) followed by the 15-24 years age group with 361 (16%) cases, and the 35-44 years group with 356 (16%) cases (figure below).

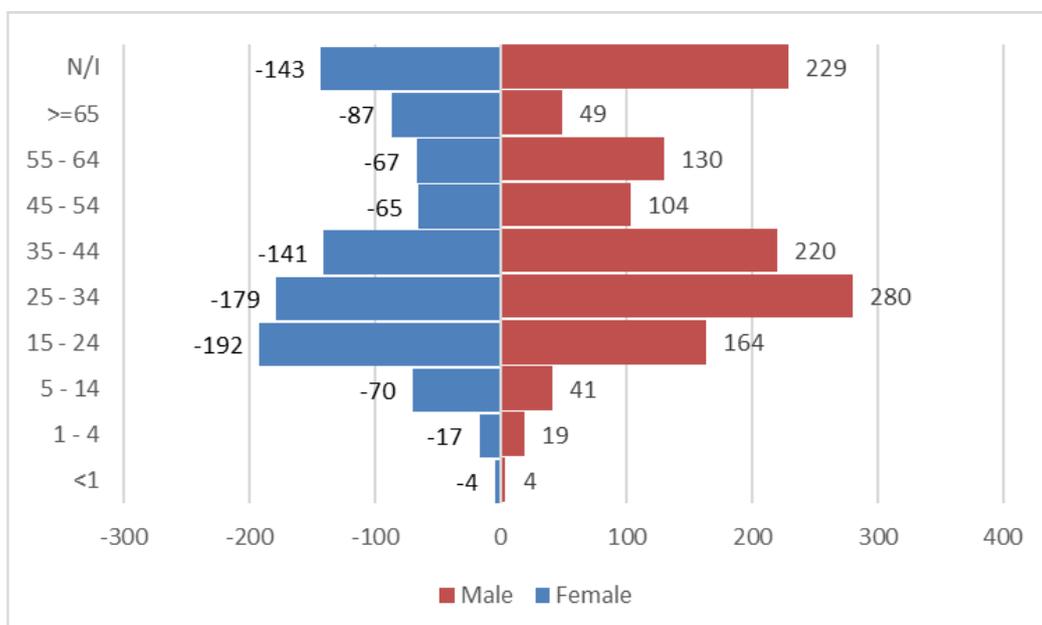


Figure1: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases by age and sex- 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## UNICEF's COVID-19 response

### **Health & Nutrition**

The local production of oxygen for treatment of COVID-19 cases continues to be insufficient and is of low quality. In support of the main hospitals treating COVID-19 cases, UNICEF handed over 20 oxygen concentrators that will be distributed to 5 regional hospitals and 6 health centres. In addition, the availability of oxygen will be strengthened with the purchase of 100 additional oxygen cylinders for the main national Hospital Simao Mendes.

### **WASH**

During this reporting period, UNICEF finalized the preparation for WASH and IPC training for school inspectors, Minister of Education staff and partners of the civil society. The aim is to count on 40 trainers that will scale up the training in Bissau and regions to include all school directors and teachers and prepare them for the reopening of schools.

In Bissau, implementing partners have started IPC awareness raising session in 9 Health Centre Facilities, the sessions will last two months and will be followed by the installation of handwashing facilities.

In the regions, distribution of sanitation and hygiene kits continued, 24 Health Centre Facilities out of 41 targeted were reached and supplied with disinfectant, gloves, tools for surface cleaning and protective equipment for cleaning.

### **RCCE/C4D**

Technical assistance to the High-Commissionaire against COVID-19, the entity mandated by the President of the Republic to lead the national coronavirus response, continued to be ensured by UNICEF through the Risk Communication and Community Engagement multidisciplinary team. In this framework UNICEF is supporting the production of a music CD with 10 musical tracks, 2 in Creole and 8 in different native languages of the country, for awareness-raising about COVID-19. Training of religious and traditional leaders and of informal and formal public transporters is also being prepared.

In addition, UNICEF continued to focus its response on interpersonal communication for sensitization among the population, in collaboration with National Red Cross volunteers in the Autonomous Sector of Bissau. During the reporting period, these interventions have reached 7,921 people (3,409 children, 2,472 women and 2,040 men). So far, 831,156 people have been reached

through door-to-door visits in residences, in main public markets and ports in the Autonomous Sector of Bissau, Cacheu and Biombo regions.



A volunteer conducting door-to-door sensitization on COVID-19

Likewise, the coronavirus preventive communication content in local languages continued to be aired through UNICEF traditional media partners (national television, national newspaper and 30 national and community-based radios countrywide). Through these media outlets, 1.6 million people have been reached countrywide. During the reporting period, UNICEF social media platforms has received 279,168 comments/reactions.

### **Education**

The Bissau-Guinean educational system is preparing for the reopening of schools, scheduled for mid-September. With the support of UNICEF, the Ministry of Education has started organizing a training of trainers in water, basic sanitation and hygiene in a school context. 40 officials from the Ministry of Education and civil society will benefit from this training, which will take place in the first week of September. This will be followed by a national training of more than 7,500 school stakeholders, including school directors, teachers, parents/caregivers and children.

UNICEF initiated the procurement process of approximately 6,000 cloth masks for school children as well as water containers and soap for hand washing in schools. In addition, UNICEF is supporting the printing and dissemination of key documents that will guide the

education system at all levels and schools to reopen safely.

UNICEF continued efforts to develop content for television and radio broadcasting with focus on foundational learning using a play-based approach. A total of sixteen video and audio activities were developed, totalling 480 hours of pre-school content aiming at reinforcing home-based learning as a COVID-19 prevention measure. These are expected to be broadcasted in the first week of September. Furthermore, the full package of primary level lessons developed with the support of the Children Radio Foundation is under translation and expected to be finalized in mid-September.

### **Child protection**

During the reporting period, the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Protection, in partnership with the national association of psychologists and the General Prosecutor's office, concluded the national assessment of institutionalized children in 18 shelters and orphanages. A total of 381 children (180 girls and 201 boys), mainly in capital Bissau (286) continue living without parental care, which compared to the same period in 2019 (685 children) shows a decrease of

almost 50%. In all of them, COVID-19 prevention sessions were organized with the distribution of hygiene kits for children and staff (900 face masks and 634 sanitizers and soap). Also, awareness and training sessions on violence prevention, including sexual abuse and exploitation were conducted to managers and staff.

### **Social inclusion and cash transfers**

Jointly with WFP and the Directorate for Social Protection, the process of identification of the households that will benefit from cash transfers to respond the COVID-19 socioeconomic has been finalized: 65 per cent of the families selected are female-headed, about 90 per cent of the beneficiary households have over five dependants and have an unemployed or only seasonally employed head of household. Besides, in 46 per cent of the beneficiary households, there was a pregnant or breastfeeding woman while in 24 per cent of them the head of the household was over 65 years old. In 32 per cent of the selected households there were children not enrolled in school. A toll-free number has been established so that beneficiaries as well as the non-beneficiaries are able to contact the project coordination to express their views and concerns.

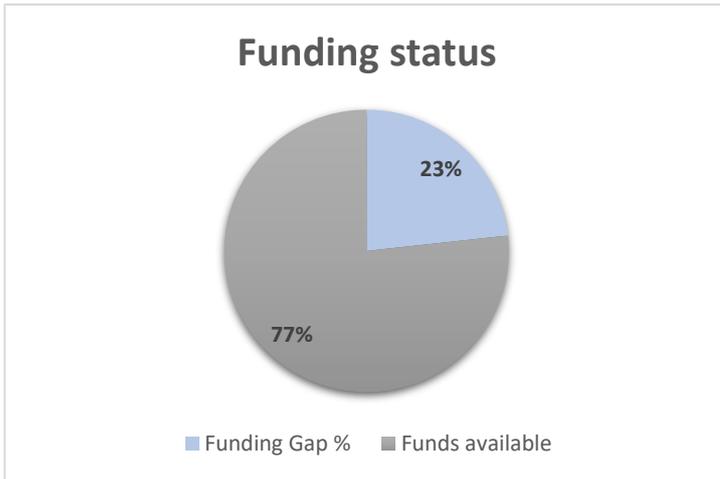
## **Adaptations to ongoing UNICEF programmes**

UNICEF has used mid-year review meetings held by sectoral programmes to readapt their work plans in order to contribute to the COVID-19 response and improve their results.

- **Birth registration:** UNICEF continues supporting the Ministry of Justice to keep the routine data collection of Birth Registration at national level, despite the challenges encountered by civil registration services during the COVID-19 lockdown and state of emergency period. During the reporting period, several working sessions were organized between Civil registration services and the National institute of Statistics, to review the data that is being submitted through the RapidPro system and also consolidate the report of birth registration from the past five years.

## **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, reallocation of US\$ 191,000 from GAVI, US\$ 100,000 from the Regional Office Emergency Fund, US\$ 200,000 from the 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 submission of funding proposals to the African Development Bank jointly with WHO (US\$ 2,100,000) and to the Japan's Supplementary budget (US\$ 1,724,220).

## 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](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>

### SOCIAL MEDIA

UNICEF Guinea-Bissau social media pages:

[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [www.unicef.org/guineabissau](http://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=uBVB\\_U9aEpE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uBVB_U9aEpE)

## MUSIC

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

## PICTURES

Folder for pictures of COVID-19 interventions [here](#)

## WASH DASHBOARD

Monitoring dashboard for COVID-19 WASH interventions: [https://bit.ly/GNB\\_covid19\\_unicef\\_WASH](https://bit.ly/GNB_covid19_unicef_WASH)



Red Cross volunteers conducting door-to-door sensitization campaign

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## Annex A

### Summary of Programme Results

Sector	UNICEF and IPs Response	
	2020 target	Total results
<b>Risk Communication and Community Engagement</b>		
<b>RCCE 1:</b> Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services	2,000,000	1,771,935
<b>RCCE 2:</b> Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions	5,432	1,087
<b>WASH and IPC</b>		
<b>IPC 1:</b> Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	500,000	Total: 329,370 Male: 159,547 Female: 169,823
<b>IPC 2:</b> Number of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	4,338	-
<b>IPC 3:</b> Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control	4,338	190
<b>Health</b>		
<b>Continuity of Health Care 1:</b> Number of healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases among children, pregnant and breastfeeding women	440	159
<b>Continuity of Health Care 4:</b> Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM)	1,547	204
<b>Child Protection and GBV</b>		
<b>Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 1:</b> Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning	500,000	Total: 319,176 (0-5 y) Male: 163,416 Female: 155,760
<b>Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 2:</b> Number of schools implementing safe school protocols (COVID-19 prevention and control)	1,500	0
<b>Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 3:</b> Number of children without parental or family care provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements	200	Total: 45 Male: 45 Female: 0
<b>Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 4:</b> Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support	25,000	Total: 20,161 Male: 5,406/0-17y: 3,617 Female: 6,614/ 0-17y:4,529
<b>Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 5:</b> Number of UNICEF personnel and partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation and referrals for survivors	150	195
<b>Access to Continuous Education, Child Protection and GBV Services 6:</b> Number of children and adults that have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse	50,000	36,860 Male 12,203/0-17y 3,473 Female 16,704/ 0-17y 4,480
<b>Social Protection</b>		
<b>Indicator 1:</b> Number of households receiving HUMANITARIAN CASH TRANSFERS through UNICEF response to COVID-19	2600	-

## 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	302,100	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%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,200,000</b>	<b>4,229,411</b>	<b>746,689</b>	<b>23%</b>