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for every child

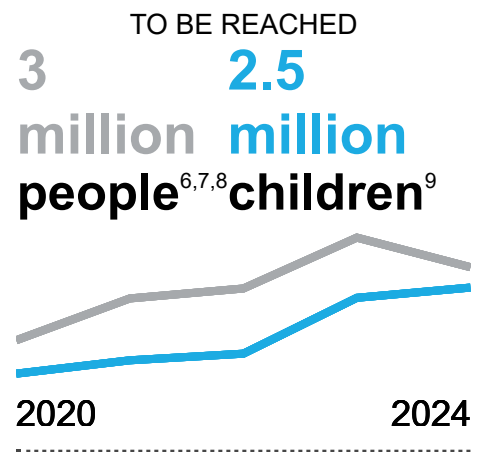
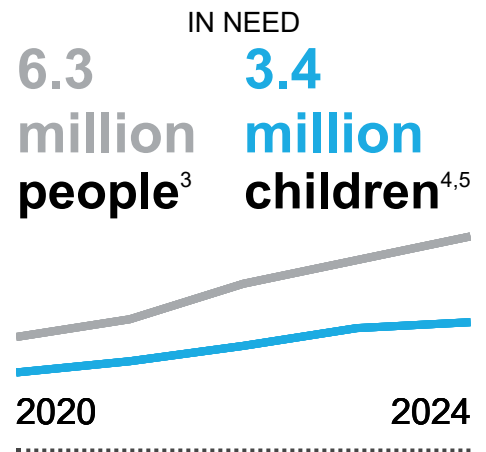
Humanitarian Action for Children

A UNICEF staff member holds a baby at a health and social promotion centre in Fada, in eastern Burkina Faso. Mothers come to the centre for their children to get routine vaccinations.

Burkina Faso

HIGHLIGHTS¹

- The people of Burkina Faso continue to experience a multidimensional humanitarian crisis that has worsened since 2019. More than 2 million people² are displaced inside the country. A de facto blockade by armed groups of areas where more than 1 million people live or have sought refuge has deprived people of free movement and necessary supplies. And the number of schools closed due to attacks has increased by 50 per cent in one year to reach one quarter of all schools in the country, impacting the learning of more than 1 million children.
- A Rapid SMART (Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions) nutritional survey was carried out in July 2023 in 25 municipalities (most hard-to-reach, and those hosting the largest number of internally displaced persons in the six most conflict-affected regions). It revealed a wasting prevalence of more than 15 per cent in seven municipalities and more than 20 per cent in two.
- UNICEF requires \$239 million in 2024 to continue investing in innovative mechanisms that address the short- and long-term vulnerabilities of women and children, with a focus on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), child protection, education and nutrition interventions.



KEY PLANNED TARGETS



179,252
children with severe wasting admitted for treatment



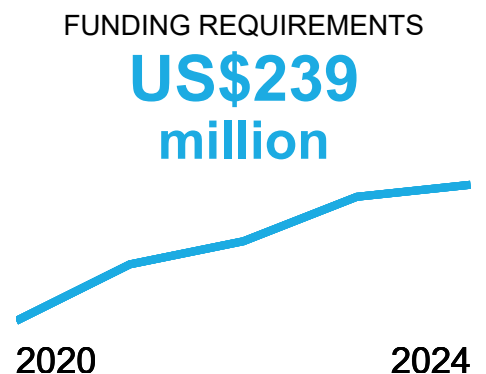
800,000
children/caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support



750,642
children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning



800,000
people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water



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

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

Burkina Faso, a landlocked country with an estimated population of 20 million,¹³ continues to be affected by a crisis whose hallmarks are armed conflict/insecurity; economic hardship;¹⁴ demographic pressure; political fragility and climate change-related shocks. This all has significant consequences on the country's sustainable development and on peace and respect for children's rights. Insecurity has spread to touch almost the entire country, resulting in the massive internal displacement of more than 2 million people,¹¹ 58 per cent of them children; it has created needs and reduced the humanitarian access necessary to address them.

People's access to basic social services is challenging in several regions. Around 3.6 million people have been deprived of access to health care, with 397 health facilities – 19 per cent of all such facilities nationwide – closed, and 381 operating at minimum capacity. Into this breach of services a resurgence of such diseases as measles, dengue fever¹⁵ and chikungunya¹² has come. Food insecurity has increased,¹⁶ and the nutrition situation in the country has worsened.¹⁰ An estimated 172,133 children under 5 years of age are wasted, 84 per cent of them in the most conflict-affected regions, including in areas that are hard to reach.

A major water crisis is also affecting the people of Burkina Faso, rooted in structural problems that predate the current crisis of insecurity but that are compounded by both the insecurity and the consequences of climate change.¹⁷ An estimated 3.2 million people have lost access to water due to insecurity.¹⁸ At the same time, Burkina Faso is among the top 20 countries for the effects climate change is having on children,¹⁹ with the impact of climate change causing a severe deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

The education sector, already fragile before the crisis (for example, one out of two school-aged children was out of school in 2014²⁰), has further deteriorated. Twenty-four per cent of schools (6,149 schools) are closed due to insecurity and attacks on infrastructure and staff.²¹ This has deprived more than 1 million children (including more than 500,000 girls)²² of their education and affected more than 31,000 teachers.²³

In this difficult humanitarian context, children remain the most affected and are exposed to all forms of violence, neglect and exploitation, including child labour and recruitment into armed groups. A total of 1,568 violations against 1,157 children were verified in 2022, including 366 grave violations against 294 children that had occurred in previous years and but were verified in 2022.²⁴ Given that access for monitors remains a challenge, this information does not represent the full scale of violations against children.

SECTOR NEEDS²⁵



3.5 million
people in need of
health assistance



1.5 million
people in need of
nutrition assistance²⁶



2 million
children in need of
protection services



2.2 million
children in need of
access to school



3.7 million
people lack access to
safe water

STORY FROM THE FIELD



Juliette, 14, still dreams of becoming a teacher one day, even though the armed conflict has forced her to leave her home and school in her native Dablo, in Burkina Faso's Centre-Nord Region.

"We left Dablo to come to Kaya because of the conflict. One day, we were in class, and they came to take us out, and we fled," recounts Juliette. In Burkina Faso, more than 2 million people have fled their homes due to violence.

In Kaya, Juliette received a school kit to support her return to school. UNICEF distributed 108,300 school kits to the most vulnerable children in regions affected by the crisis.

[Read more about this story here](#)

Juliette, 14, a displaced adolescent in Kaya, holds a school kit received from UNICEF to support her return to school.

In 2024, UNICEF will continue to support the Government to address the most urgent needs of 3 million people affected by recurrent and protracted humanitarian crises, including 2.5 million children. UNICEF will strengthen the core strategic pillars that have guided its multisectoral programme delivery and will use a humanitarian–development–peace nexus approach, localization strategies and youth empowerment to achieve results.

UNICEF is developing access plans³⁰ adapted to each intervention area to mitigate constraints linked to poor access to the most insecure communities and to provide appropriate responses, building on the Rapid Response and Community Resilience and Emergency Response Team approaches with other United Nations agencies.

UNICEF will support public health emergency preparedness and response³¹ and use community-based approaches to scale up the provision of health care to populations. This includes task shifting to promote and provide health care in hard-to-reach areas; strengthening the capacity of health structures for nutrition surveillance and an integrated nutrition response,³² and delivering medical/nutritional therapeutic products.

To improve access to quality WASH services, UNICEF will reinforce support to community resilience and sustainability, working with local partners to ensure people's minimum access to services in hard-to-reach communities, while strengthening the capacity of water utility authorities to ensure the delivery of safe drinking water in urban areas.

UNICEF will improve access to education by strengthening the education system and its ability to provide quality instruction,³³ whether through non-formal, remedial, vocational, accelerated and/or formal education, both in-person and via radio. Education programmes include a psychosocial component using the safe schools approach.

UNICEF will support prevention and response to violence against children, including grave child rights violations, gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse. Community-based child protection workers and focal points will be equipped to collect and share data on grave violations. UNICEF will support implementation of the protocol on the transfer and care of children associated with armed forces and armed groups; and defense and security forces will be trained on children's rights, including on the rights of children associated with armed forces and armed groups. At the community level, mine risk education, awareness raising activities on gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse will be conducted and channels for reporting for survivors of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse established. Training for social workers on case management and mental health and psychosocial support will help improve children's access to a minimum package of services that includes mental health and psychosocial support through quality case management. UNICEF will strengthen mechanisms to collect and process complaints and provide feedback to meet its commitments to accountability to affected populations.

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



Health (including public health emergencies)

- **405,175** children vaccinated against measles, supplemental dose³⁵
- **561,720** children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities³⁶
- **78,930** Households that received at least two long-last insecticide-treated nets in humanitarian context



Nutrition

- **1,200,000** children 6-59 months screened for wasting³⁷
- **179,252** children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment³⁸
- **661,000** primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling³⁹



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **800,000** children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support⁴⁰
- **120,000** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions⁴¹
- **70,000** people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations
- **6,000** unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified



Education⁴²

- **750,642** children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning⁴³
- **675,578** children receiving individual learning materials⁴⁴
- **2,100** teachers and facilitators trained in basic pedagogy and/or mental health and psychosocial support⁴⁵



Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **800,000** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs⁴⁶
- **800,000** people accessing appropriate sanitation services
- **1,000,000** people reached with critical WASH supplies⁴⁷



Social protection

- **140,671** households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in-kind) measures from government-funded programmes with UNICEF technical assistance support



Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)

- **8,000** households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers (including for social protection and other sectors)⁴⁸
- **3,000,000** affected people (children, caregivers, community members) reached with timely and life-saving information on how and where to access available services^{49,50}
- **150,000** people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2024

UNICEF requires \$239 million in 2024 to maintain and expand programmes in Burkina Faso to meet the needs of 3 million vulnerable children, adolescents and women, including those living in isolated and hard-to-reach areas.

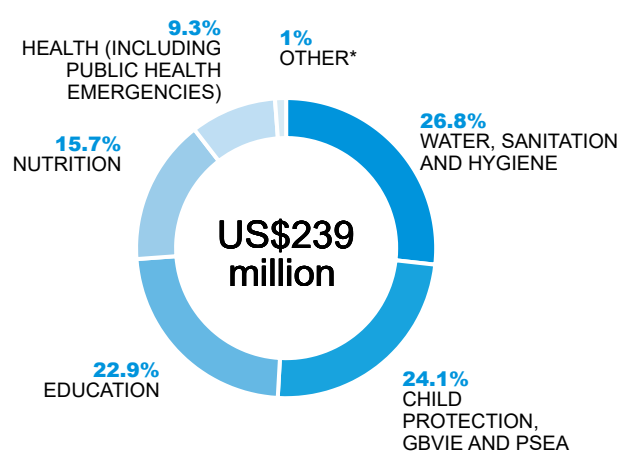
The amount requested is around 5 per cent more than in 2023 (\$226.7 million), a slight increase linked primarily (but not solely) to the rising number of people in need and the access constraints – and associated logistical costs – of this particular operating environment.

With people having an especially difficult time accessing WASH services, the WASH sector alone accounts for 27 per cent of the appeal. Funding it fully will enable UNICEF to provide access to a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs for 800,000 people.

The substantial increase in the child protection targets and budget, compared with 2023, is to ensure access to quality mental and psychosocial support to 800,000 children living the consequences of the country's poor protection environment. In 2023, UNICEF targeted 600,000 children. And due to additional nutrition and health needs, funding requirements increased by 13 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively, for programming in these sectors.

Compared with 2023, the education budget for 2024 is 10 per cent lower. Due to increasingly limited access for enacting formal education activities, UNICEF will invest in lighter education activities, such as radio education programmes, which are less costly.⁵¹

Without adequate and timely support in 2024, UNICEF and its partners will be unable to meet the critical humanitarian needs of 2.5 million children in Burkina Faso.



Sector	2024 requirements (US\$) ⁵²
Health (including public health emergencies)	22,192,299
Nutrition	37,506,000
Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA	57,672,000 ⁵³
Education	54,837,766
Water, sanitation and hygiene	63,968,396
Social protection	161,378
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	2,686,360 ⁵⁴
Total	239,024,199

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP) (1.1%), Social protection (<1%).

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ENDNOTES

1. UNICEF activated its Corporate Emergency Level 2 Scale-up Procedure for Sahel Crisis for the following period: 19 July 2022 - 19 December 2023. The status will be reviewed on that date. UNICEF Emergency Procedures are activated to ensure a timely and effective response to all crises. The emergency procedures provide a tailored package of mandatory actions and simplifications required for all offices responding to Level 3, Level 2 and Level 1 humanitarian situations.
2. Secrétariat Permanent du Conseil national de secours d'urgence et de réhabilitation, data as at 31 March 2023. Sixty per cent of these displaced people are children.
3. Provisional figures from United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Burkina Faso Humanitarian Response Plan 2024 (draft).
4. Provisional figures from OCHA, Burkina Faso Humanitarian Response Plan 2024 (draft).
5. The number of people in need has increased compared with 2023, as has the number of children in need. Indeed, the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan will cover the whole country, whereas in 2023 it only covered five regions (mostly those with internally displaced people). The proportion of children as part of the population covered was therefore higher for the latest versions, since the child rate among IDPs and host communities is 60 per cent and 52 per cent respectively, while the national rate is 51.2 per cent.
6. Calculated using highest coverage programme targets of children aged 6–59 months screened for wasting (1,080,000, excluding 10.2 per cent for children aged 6–23 months); children aged 6–17 years old accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning (743,136); 49 per cent of people reached with critical WASH supplies, representing children 5 years of age and adults (491,000); and unaccompanied and separated children to be reached with family-based care or a suitable alternative (6,000). The figures include 52 per cent women/girls and 2.2 per cent people with disabilities.
7. Despite the deterioration in the situation, the number of people to be reached is lower than in 2023 due to a modified calculation method used for this appeal.
8. 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.
9. Calculated using highest coverage programme targets of children aged 6–59 months screened for wasting (1,080,000, excluding 10.2 per cent for children aged 6–23 months); children aged 6–17 years old accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning (743,136); 3.1 per cent of people reached with critical WASH supplies, representing children 5 years of age (31,000); and unaccompanied and separated children to be reached with family-based care or a suitable alternative (6,000). 27 per cent girls. 2.2 per cent children with disabilities to be reached.
10. More than one in five children in Burkina Faso suffers from wasting. The latest nutrition SMART survey in July 2023 found that all but 3 of 18 surveyed municipalities ranked either very high or high for malnutrition; the remaining 3 had a moderate level of malnutrition.
11. Secrétariat Permanent du Conseil national de secours d'urgence et de réhabilitation, Internally displaced persons scoreboard as at 31 March 2023.
12. Confirmed cases of chikungunya: 92. Source: Epidemiological weekly bulletin, week 39, 10 October 2023.
13. Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie, 5em Recensement générale de la population et de l'habitation, June 2022.
14. The inflation rate in September 2023 was 13 per cent, with an overall increase in the prices of food and transport products a consequence of the war in Ukraine. People's vulnerability increased because their capacities to make a living from agriculture were severely reduced due to the security situation in the country.
15. Suspected cases of dengue fever: 13,135; deaths: 133 as of 1 October 2023. Source: Centre des opérations de réponse aux urgences sanitaires (CORUS), Rapport de situation sur la flambée des cas de dengue au Burkina Faso, 3 October 2023.
16. According to the Harmonized Framework analyses on food insecurity, more than 3.3 million people in 15 provinces were in phase 3 to 5 of food insecurity and in need of food assistance from June to August 2023.
17. In the six regions most affected by the humanitarian crisis (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel), the rate of access to drinking water was 68 per cent and the rate of access to sanitation was 42 per cent in 2019, before the massive arrival of internally displaced persons.
18. From January to August 2023 members of the WASH Cluster reported 33 attacks in 15 different localities in the Est, Nord, Centre-Nord and Sahel regions, compared with 58 in 2022. In total, an estimated 974,353 people were deprived of their access to water between 2022 and 2023 solely due to these attacks. In addition, 101 water infrastructure sites were sabotaged during these attacks.
19. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), The Climate Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis: Introducing the Children's Climate Risk Index, UNICEF, New York, 2021, available at <www.unicef.org/reports/climate-crisis-child-rights-crisis>.
20. Rapport d'analyse Enfants au dehors de l'école, July 2017.
21. This is an increase of 44 per cent compared with the same period in 2022.
22. This is an increase of 42 per cent compared with the same period in 2022.
23. Ministry of National Education, Literacy and Promotion of National Languages, Rapport statistique mensuel des données de l'Education en Situation d'Urgence du 31 mai 2023, June 2023.
24. United Nations, Children and armed conflict: Report of the Secretary-General, 5 June 2023.
25. Figures are provisional, based on cluster estimates, and are subject to be revised upon finalization of the humanitarian planning process.
26. The number of people in need includes severely wasted children, moderately wasted children and pregnant and lactating women.
27. 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.
28. UNICEF is committed to supporting the leadership and coordination of humanitarian response through its leadership or co-leadership of cluster coordination for the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. All cluster coordinator costs are included in sectoral programme budgets.
29. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.
30. This dynamic work tool evolves with the security context and is tailored to local constraints through use of methods that leverage local resources (e.g., use of the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service to reach areas inaccessible by road, use of local NGOs with access capacity to implement activities, use of community relays to carry out activities).
31. To rapidly detect unusual events that could lead to epidemics. There will be an emphasis on responding to epidemics of such diseases as measles, polio, dengue fever, chikungunya and cholera.
32. Both preventive and curative.
33. With special attention to early childhood and adolescence.
34. Beyond the UNICEF targets for these interventions, other humanitarian partners are expected to reach the remaining children/families in need.
35. Calculated as 25 per cent of the draft health cluster children in need number (children aged 6 months to 14 years old), taking into consideration that there are other partners and that the country plans to carry out a national measles campaign at the beginning of 2024.
36. The total number is comprised of 70 per cent of the children under age 5 calculated from the health cluster people in need number, plus 25 per cent of the pregnant women targeted by the health cluster, because the United Nations Population Fund is covering a high percentage.
37. The 1,200,000 children aged 6–59 months targeted for screening is 65 per cent of children of this age living in the six most affected regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel).
38. Total severely wasted children waiting for 2023 (IPC November 2022).
39. Corresponds to 60 per cent of pregnant and lactating women in the six most affected regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel).
40. The target is 40 per cent of the children in need estimated by the Child Protection Area of Responsibility.
41. The increase in the target compared with 2023 is due to the rise in needs and the increase in cases of gender-based violence. From January to September 2023, 4,588 cases of gender-based violence were recorded, compared with 2,912 during the same period in 2022.
42. The Humanitarian Response Plan targets for 2023 and 2024 are similar despite an increase in the number of people in need. This is because the intercluster coordination group and OCHA have chosen to target areas with effective partners and ensured access. UNICEF is aligned with the Humanitarian Response Plan in terms of target and covers the same percentage as in 2023 (79 per cent of the Education Cluster target).
43. This is 79 per cent of the children targeted by the Education Cluster in the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan – the same percentage as in 2023.
44. This is made up of 90 per cent of the children targeted by this appeal for access to education, considering that pre-primary school children do not receive individual learning kits and that supply deliveries will not be able to reach some areas.
45. With 50 children per teacher, this intervention area will have a positive impact on 104,956 children, or 14 per cent of all the targeted children – the same percentage as in 2023.
46. This value has increased by 6 per cent compared with 2023 and represents 43 per cent of the WASH Cluster overall targets for 2024.
47. This is more than half (54 per cent) of the WASH Cluster target for 2024. The estimate takes into account UNICEF's role as one of the main actors in awareness activities, which are completed with WASH supplies donations.
48. Humanitarian cash transfers: 6,000 households; Technical Assistance: 2,000 households.
49. This indicator and the one that follows are calculated based on the level of achievement of the target in past interventions and the potential partnerships for 2024.
50. The population targeted is higher than the total number of people/children to be reached because the target includes mass media outreach.
51. In alignment with the Education Cluster and with actual reported results, which demonstrate that such non-formal activities as radio education and remedial courses are more feasible and have more impact in emergency situations.
52. Cross-sectoral costs including support costs, social and behaviour change, emergency coordination and cluster coordination are included in individual sector budget lines.
53. This includes \$48 million for mental health and psychosocial support, including capacity building and strengthening community-based child protection mechanisms; \$2 million for victims assistance using a case management approach for identified children in need, including children associated with armed groups and armed forces, survivors of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, and other victims of violence and abuse (target included in the 120,000, but budget is apart); \$3 million for case management for unaccompanied and separated children; \$7,200 for MRE; and \$4.5 million for prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse interventions.
54. According to the minimum expenditure basket finalized by the cash working group and the Government in 2023, displaced and host family households require on average CFAP41,000 (\$66.44) to cover the gaps in their capacity to purchase the minimum expenditure basket to be able to meet their essential needs at local markets. Households receive monthly assistance for three months.