



Niger

The Niger continues to face multiple humanitarian crises, with needs projected to grow in the coming years. It is estimated that in 2017, more than 1.9 million people will be affected by at least one crisis, including food insecurity and malnutrition, population movement, epidemics and natural disasters. The Diffa region, currently hosting 221,790 displaced people³ from the Niger and Nigeria due to Boko Haram-related insecurity, will continue to be affected, with an estimated 340,000 people expected to require humanitarian assistance in 2017.⁴ It is envisaged that needs in the region will remain acute across all sectors, exacerbated by weak infrastructure and sub-optimal links with transitional and development interventions. At the national level, despite an average harvest season, an estimated 1.3 million people will require food assistance and 1.5 million will require nutritional assistance, including 247,500 children affected by severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Epidemic outbreaks, particularly measles, meningitis and cholera, and natural disasters are expected to impact 872,000 people, including 479,600 children under 5.⁵


Humanitarian strategy

In 2017, UNICEF's humanitarian strategy will focus on the SAM response, including infant and young child feeding, targeting 247,500 children country-wide, as well as a multi-sectoral response to the 345,000 affected people in Diffa. Opportunities for developing more effective links between humanitarian response and regular programmes will be prioritized, particularly with safe water access, where water trucking will be combined with longer-term solutions such as deep boreholes connected with multi-village distribution systems and solar systems for pump functioning. Preparedness efforts will be maintained for epidemic outbreaks and floods, and contingency stocks will be maintained for the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster in Diffa. UNICEF will continue to support the coordination of the WASH, education, nutrition and child protection sectors. The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), which incorporates non-food items (NFI) and WASH interventions, will be strengthened. Regular risk analysis will allow UNICEF to update contingency plans and improve preparedness. Prevention efforts will continue in all sectors, and tighter collaboration among child protection, education and Communication for Development will be established in Diffa. In health, mobile and fixed strategies will target 105,000 children in Diffa. At the national level, UNICEF will support the vaccination of 500,000 children aged 0 to 11 months.

Results from 2016

As of 31 October 2016, UNICEF had received US\$20.4 million against the US\$39.5 million appeal (52 per cent funded).⁶ UNICEF was able to maintain the national SAM treatment programme, reaching 286,348 children (71.4 per cent of the target). In Diffa, UNICEF and WASH cluster partners provided safe water to 70,000 displaced people following the June attacks in Bosso. UNICEF assisted more than 45,000 people between May and July – over 50 per cent of the 2016 target – reorienting most funding to respond to this crisis. Similarly, in the child protection sector, more than 50 per cent of children expected to need psychosocial support were assisted after the Bosso crisis. In education, targets set for Diffa could not be met due to insufficient funding, but the 2016 back-to-school campaign has so far reached 7,120 children. Preparedness strategies allowed UNICEF and partners to effectively respond to a cholera outbreak in October, to NFI needs following floods and to NFI and WASH needs in Diffa through the RRM established on 1 January. In health, UNICEF continued to play a major role in the prevention and response to measles outbreaks. Assistance to the population in Diffa will be strengthened in 2017 through mobile clinics.

Humanitarian Action for Children

unicef 

Total people in need:

1.9 million¹

Total children (<18) in need:

1.1 million²

Total people to be reached in 2017:

880,000

Total children to be reached in 2017:

729,700

2017 programme targets

Nutrition

- 247,500 children under 5 years suffering from SAM admitted into therapeutic feeding programmes

Health

- 100,000 children aged 6 months to 14 years vaccinated against measles in Diffa
- 105,000 children with access to life-saving interventions through fixed and mobile strategies

WASH

- 345,000 people accessing drinking water and appropriate sanitation facilities and practicing appropriate hygiene behaviours

Child protection

- 30,883 children benefited from psychosocial support through community-based recreational and socio-educational activities

Education

- 11,990 girls and boys (aged 7 to 14 years) accessed formal and non-formal education

NFI kit

- 35,000 people (5,000 households) affected by natural disasters provided with an NFI kit
- 77,000 people (11,000 households) affected by conflict provided with an NFI kit

	Cluster 2016 target	Cluster total results	UNICEF 2016 target	UNICEF total results
NUTRITION				
Children under 5 with SAM admitted into therapeutic feeding programme	400,794	286,348	400,794	286,348
Children under 5 with SAM admitted into therapeutic feeding programme in Diffa	14,338	11,025	14,338	11,025
HEALTH				
Children in humanitarian situations aged 0 to 11 months vaccinated against measles			1,013,382	678,356
Children under 5 who utilized health services (pneumonia, diarrhoea and malaria) in Diffa			70,000	80,748
Children who have access to life-saving interventions through community-based outreach activities (mobile clinics) in Diffa			40,000	4,719
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE				
Men, women, girls and boys affected by the crisis in Diffa who have improved access to drinking water	194,970	148,394	20,000	75,846
People affected by the crisis in Diffa with access to sanitation infrastructure	268,605	77,272	71,495	49,750
CHILD PROTECTION				
Children benefiting from psychosocial support through community-based recreational and socio-educational activities	62,905	97,454	40,000	57,581
Separated/unaccompanied children identified, documented and benefiting/placed in alternative care or individual follow up	1,318	1,075	600	275
EDUCATION				
School-aged girls and boys (7 to 14 years) with continued access to formal and non-formal education in Diffa	26,000	25,871	20,000	16,215

Results are through 31 October 2016 unless noted.

Funding requirements

In line with the Niger's inter-agency 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan, UNICEF is requesting US\$36,992,042⁷ for 2017 to meet the humanitarian needs of children in the country. Without additional funding, UNICEF will be unable to support a coordinated and efficient response to the Niger's continuing nutrition crisis and provide rapid and efficient assistance to displaced people and affected host communities in Diffa, particularly in relation to water. Critical basic services and supplies are also required to assist people affected by epidemics such as cholera, measles and meningitis, and supplies are required to provide rapid assistance to people affected by displacement and natural disasters.

Sector	2017 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	20,000,000
Health	1,714,565
Water, sanitation and hygiene (including RRM)	7,500,000
Child protection	2,307,060
Education	1,083,417
Non-food items (floods and RRM)	3,387,000
Cluster/sector coordination	1,000,000
Total	36,992,042

¹ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, '2017 Niger Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA.

² Ibid.

³ Direction Regional Etat Civile, October 2016.

⁴ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, '2017 Niger Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Available funds included funding received against the current appeal of US\$15.4 million and US\$5 million carried forward from the previous year.

⁷ UNICEF is requesting an additional US\$7.8 million from the Humanitarian Response Plan to cover: 40,000 people with WASH services related to nutrition and floods response; vaccination of 500,000 additional children beyond the Humanitarian Response Plan; and US\$1 million for coordination. Additionally, the Humanitarian Response Plan-requested budget for nutrition will not be sufficient to cover the needs of all 247,500 targeted children with SAM, therefore UNICEF is requesting a top up of US\$4.7 million to assist the children.

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