Côte d'Ivoire: COVID-19 Situation Report - #13

Reporting Period: 20 June to 3 July 2020

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Over the last month, COVID-19 cases have tripled. The number of cases went from around 3,000 to 9,702 (over 6,700 new cases in June) and Côte d'Ivoire is about to pass the 10,000-case mark. The COVID-19 pandemic has spread to 24 districts across the country. Out of the 9,702 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 61% are male and 39% female, 4,381 people (45%) have recovered, 5,253 cases (54.1%) remain active and 68 people (0.7%) have died.

- From 15 to 19 June 2020, the Ministry of Public Health, WHO, UNICEF and the main actors of the health sector have conducted a joint assessment of the response capacity of 30 health districts outside of Abidjan. A WASH component was integrated in the joint assessment. The joint assessment findings will inform an action plan to reinforce the preparedness and response capacity of health districts in the interior of the country.
- Heavy rains are continuing in Abidjan and in the interior of the country. Landslide and floods are affecting areas that were already exposed to COVID-19. 514 households (2,482 people) were affected to date. Four inter-ministerial teams with UN support are currently carrying out a multisectoral assessment in three regions (Lagunes, Sud-Comoé and the autonomous district of Abidjan) to get a comprehensive view of the situation.
- A <u>U-Report poll</u> on the floods launched on 19 June garnered over 64,000 responses. 81% of respondents said that they did not know what to do in case of heavy rains. U-Report communities in Abidjan were activated and provided with the necessary equipment to help families clean up their houses. National television channel RTI covered U-Report communities' actions and shared prevention messages.

UNICEF's COVID-19 Response

Health

In the 24 health districts supported by UNICEF/C2D-AFD, 2,123 Community Health Workers (CHWs) were trained in surveillance, detection of suspect cases and contact tracing. The CHWs will also disseminate messages on nutrition in the COVID-19 context and help screen malnutrition.

Regarding contact tracing in Abidjan, UNICEF, WHO and IRC supported the distribution of kits to all the 380 new tracers to reinforce the capacity of their respective health districts. Due to the increase in the number of COVID-19 cases, UNICEF will support the training of an additional 120 contact tracers to bring the total number to 500. They will also be equipped with adequate kits which include a bag, Personal Protective Equipment, hygiene equipment and tools to measure temperature, to collect data and to monitor cases. Of the 380 tracers trained, 340 are currently operational, and the supervision and coordination mechanisms are in place. This process is funded by WHO, UNICEF, USAID, IRC and CDC. These 340 tracers have tracked 1,560 contacts with an average of five contacts per tracer during the 15 to 21 June period. Due to the low number of contacts recorded, 30 tracers out of the 40 nonoperational ones are currently on standby in two districts.

From 15 to 19 June 2020, the Ministry of Public Health, WHO, UNICEF and the main actors of the health sector conducted a joint assessment of the response capacity of health districts outside of Abidjan. The joint assessment, which included a WASH component, was carried out in 30 health districts in the interior of the country. The findings will help inform an action plan to reinforce the preparedness and response capacity of health districts in the interior of the country.

WASH

UNICEF continued supporting the implementation of health and safety protocols for schools. 46,310 additional students (21,603 girls and 24,707 boys) from 195 primary schools in the northern regions of the country are now benefiting from handwashing devices and soaps.

Additionally, 80 additional healthcare facilities in the northern regions are benefiting from handwashing stations and replenished stocks of hygiene and disinfection products.

Awareness-raising activities on handwashing and other COVID-19 preventive practices through door-to-door activities and focus groups have intensified through the direct intervention of UNICEF Implementing Partners

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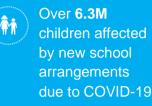
for every child

Situation in Numbers:



\$

9,702 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 68 deaths





(IPs) in 10 localities for the benefit of over 4,830 women and 5,170 men.

Heavy rains are continuing in Abidjan and in the interior of the country. Landslides and floods are affecting areas that were already exposed to COVID-19. In Anyama, a peri-urban area of Abidjan, a landslide occurred and 514 households (2,482 people) were affected. Through a partnership with the Ivorian Red Cross, UNICEF provided hygiene and handwashing kits to these 514 affected households.

RCCE/C4D

The rainy season began two weeks ago in Côte d'Ivoire and Abidjan was struck by devastating floods, exacerbating the COVID-19 emergency. To raise the population's awareness of prevention measures and potential dangers, UNICEF updated its U-Report RAIN information centre, which is accessible via SMS and Facebook Messenger. The information centre was consulted 481,000 times since its creation.

A <u>U-Report poll</u> on the floods launched on 19 June garnered over 64,000 responses. 81% of respondents said that they did not know what to do in case of heavy rains. U-Report communities in Abidjan (Anyama, Cocody, Bingerville, Port Bouet) were activated and provided with the necessary equipment to help families clean up their houses. National television channel RTI covered U-Report communities' actions and shared prevention messages. Young people also participated in radio shows, where they shared prevention messages and committed to helping their communities. Prevention infographics and videos were produced and shared on social media. A multimedia album was created and made accessible to journalists and on <u>WeShare</u>.

UNICEF continued its COVID-19 awareness campaign, which achieved a cumulative total reach of over 310 million hits, including a reach of 1 million on traditional media (TV, radio and print), 168,000 on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn) and 154,397 consultations of the U-Report coronavirus information centre over the last two weeks.

UNICEF's campaign has generated a cumulative total of 893,136 engagements (likes, comments, shares) on UNICEF and U-Report's social media platforms. To date, a total of 479,082 people engaged in COVID-19 related actions. This includes young reporters, young bloggers, Voix des jeunes, journalists, U-Report communities, religious leaders and people giving their opinion through U-Report polls.

In addition to the production of radio programmes on prevention measures, birth registration and nutrition in the COVID-19 context, which will be broadcasted by 150 community radio stations across the country, UNICEF is currently finalising the production of two additional HIV-related broadcasts.

Education

The Global Partnership for Education's board approved Côte d'Ivoire's request for an accelerated funding of US\$11 million for its COVID-19 response, which will be implemented for one year. UNICEF has been chosen by the Government and the Local Group for Education, Training, Higher Education and Youth Employment (GLPE) as the grant agent, while being at the same time the Coordinating agency until the end of July 2020.

Regarding the reopening of the schools, the Ministry of Education reversed its decision to extend the school year until 14 August 2020 and announced that there will be a school break between the end of June and September. Secondary students in examination classes are expected to be sent home after the written examination period, which will end by the second week of July.

The national survey on the reopening of schools gathered information about girls and children with disabilities regarding digital divide and social norms. UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education with the development of practical guidance and counselling tools aimed at supporting local authorities, families, and school-age children.

Nutrition

Since March 2020, 4,139 children aged 6-59 months were admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). During the same period, 230,198 caregivers of children aged 0-23 months were reached with messages aiming to protect breastfeeding in the context of COVID-19 through national communication campaigns.

UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Health with the implementation of the Nutrition Activities Intensification Week (Vitamin A supplementation and deworming (VAS-D)), which was launched on June 27 in the 41 health districts offering VAS-D routine services. This activity aims to target 60% of 1,128,765 children aged 6-59 months for VAS and 992,966 children aged 12-59 month for deworming and to increase the coverage of these two interventions for the first semester and strengthen the continuity of nutrition services. Populations will also be sensitised to the importance of healthcare facility attendance in order to raise the demand for health care services.

UNICEF is also working with the Ministry of Health and partners (Helen Keller International, Ivorian Red Cross, ASAPSU) to support the planning of the Child Health Days (CHDs). The CHDs will include VAS-D and acute malnutrition screening activities in 72 health districts and will target 5,711,468 children aged 6-59 months for VAS, 5,178,187 children aged 12-59 months for deworming and 847,629 children aged 6-59 months for acute malnutrition screening. The CHDs were postponed to early July 2020. UNICEF produced several mass media communication materials (e.g. TV and radio spots, posters, banners, flyers), which include key nutrition messages in the COVID-19 context.

Child Protection

To complement its WASH activities in response to the floods and the Anyama landslide, UNICEF distributed emergency kits to 514 affected households. The kits include insecticide-treated mosquito nets, mats, blankets, and items of clothing for children.

Social Protection

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, 77,042 beneficiaries, representing 43.47% of the targeted 177,198 vulnerable households included in the transitional phase, benefited from a cash assistance from the Solidarity and Emergency Humanitarian Support Fund (FSS). In addition to the aforementioned 77,042 beneficiaries, the FSS validated a list of 1,685 additional beneficiaries out of the 20,706 workers who lost their jobs because of COVID-19. The amount of the assistance provided by the FSS for the first cohort is estimated at 292.56 million CFA.

About 6,800 people working in the informal sector (57% women and 43% men) received 200,000 FCFA from the Support Fund for Actors Working in the Informal Sector (FASI) to help them to relaunch their activities. 48.5% of the beneficiaries were from outside the Greater Abidjan area and the remaining 51.5% were from the Greater

Abidjan area. Most beneficiaries were working in the trade (31.3%), transport (19%), cultural (15%) and catering (13.1%) sectors. 306.6 million FCFA were allocated to these beneficiaries.

UNICEF is the leading agency for a USD 1 million joint UN project proposal for the UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UN COVID-19 MPTF). The project, titled "Support to the governance of the overall national response and assistance to populations made vulnerable by COVID-19 crisis", will improve COVID-19 response governance with concrete cash and in-kind support to children living on the street or children in prison. For the latter, UNICEF will work jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). UNICEF will assist with the procurement of hygiene kits for prisoners, whereas UNODC will be responsible for the governance aspect of the project.

HIV & Adolescents

Awareness-raising activities on COVID-19, HIV and STI prevention and testing were carried out through social media in four districts of Abidjan. These activities reached a total of 3,080 young people aged 10 to 24. UNICEF raised the awareness of 1,719 young girls were sensitised on the management of menstrual hygiene. In addition, 60 adolescents and young people were counselled and screened for HIV. Heartland Alliance and consortium members have reached 1,075 adolescents and young people through HIV/AIDS prevention activities.

Human Resources

On 29 June, UNICEF started a process to systematise staff presence in the office. This process includes rotating schedules, social distancing, prevention measures and improved cleaning protocols.

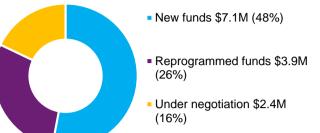
Adaptations to Ongoing UNICEF Programmes

Further to the sharing of preliminary findings of UNICEF's study on the consequences of COVID-19 on children, youth and women in Côte d'Ivoire, a meeting was organised under the leadership of the UNICEF Representative and in collaboration with the Communication for Development and Youth Engagement team to discuss the programmatic implications of the study's results and the evidence it generated. The study's findings will be used to fine-tune communications and the community-based response to COVID-19. Specific attention will be given to: 1) creating an enabling environment for behaviour change; 2) adapting the C4D strategy to the evolution of the pandemic and the response measures adopted by the Government; and 3) developing a more targeted approach in the areas most exposed to the pandemic (i.e. Cocody, Marcory, Treichville, Yopougon and Abobo). The aim of such reflection is to define operational strategies that will guide the implementation of the joint UN communication strategy for COVID-19 response.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

Of the US\$14.8 million programmatic budget required for UNICEF's multi-sectoral response plan for COVID-19, US\$10.9 million (74%) has already been mobilised. The amount mobilised is a combination of reprogrammed funds (26%) and new funding (48%) received from governments and private donors. UNICEF is awaiting confirmation of additional funding from National Committees for UNICEF Support (NatCom), international financial institutions and institutional donors (16%).

Funding pipeline



External Media

Floods response photo album: <u>https://weshare.unicef.org/Folder/2AM408PRHWTU</u>. All graphic design content is available here: <u>https://bit.ly/39eynLd</u>. All photos and videos are available here: <u>https://weshare.unicef.org/Folder/2AM408X0E416</u>.

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

UNICEF		and IPs Response	
Sector	2020 target	Total results*	
Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)			
RCCE 1: Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services.	14,000,000 ¹	14,000,000	
RCCE 2: Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions.	500,000	479,082	
RCCE 3: Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms.	2,000,000	1,881,607	
Provision of critical medical and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)			
supplies and improving Infection and Prevention Control (IPC)			
IPC 1: Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services.	100,000	33,992 ²	
IPC 2: Number of healthcare workers within health facilities and communities provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).	3,513 (HF staff: 1,390 + CHWs: 2,123)	0	
IPC 3: Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC).	12,123 (HF staff: 10,000 + CHWs: 2,123)	9,733 (HF)	
Continuity of Care for women and children			
Continuity of Health Care 1: Number of healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral, and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases.	HF staff: 12,123	9,733	
Continuity of Health Care 2: Number of children and women receiving essential healthcare, including prenatal, delivery and postnatal care, essential new-born care, immunization, treatment of childhood illnesses and HIV care through UNICEF supported community health workers and health facilities.	389,050 Children: 325,617 + Women: 63,456	Data not available	
Continuity of Health Care 3: Number of caregivers of children aged 0-23 months reached with messages aiming to protect breastfeeding in the context of COVID-19 through national communication campaigns.	1,200,000	230,198	
$\label{eq:continuity} of Health Care 4: Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM).$	33,000	4,139 ³	
Access to continuous education, child protection and GBV services			
Access to Continuous E, CP and GBV Services 1: Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning.	1,247,097	839,935 ⁴	
Access to Continuous E, CP and GBV Services 2: Number of schools implementing safe school protocols.	1,000	0	
Access to Continuous E, CP and GBV Services 3: Number of children without parental or family care provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements.	1,381	410	
Access to Continuous E, CP and GBV S. 4: Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support.	100,000	87,880	
Access to Continuous E, CP and GBV Services 5: Number of UNICEF personnel & partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation & referrals for survivors, including for PSEA.	80	72 ⁵	
Social Protection			
Social Protection 1: Number of households (affected by COVID-19) receiving humanitarian multi-sector cash grant for basic needs.	2,000	600	
Social Protection 2: Number of households benefitting from new or additional social assistance measures provided by governments to respond to COVID-19 with UNICEF support	177,000	69,396	

Target and results have been revised with HQ. The results indicate the number of people reached by SMS.
8,462 boys, 7,702 girls, 8,611 adult women and 9,218 adult men.
1,960 boys and 2,179 girls.
0 children in pre-primary school, 391,022 in primary school and 448,913 in secondary school.

^{5:} Among the partners trained, 19 were women.

Annex B

Funding Status

Sector	Funding requirements (\$)	Funds available (\$)	Funding gap (\$)	Gap (%)
C4D / RCCE	713,644	754,900	(41,256)	0%
WASH & IPC	3,568,218	3,358,410	209,808	5.7%
Nutrition	594,703	1,178,250	(583,547)	0%
Health	8,388,881	2,351,900	6,036,981	71%
Child Protection	487,657	775,000	(287,343)	28%
Education	603,029	1,412,000	(808,971)	0%
HIV/AIDS	0	603,000	(603,000)	0%
Social Protection	463,868	0	463,868	100%
Coordination	0	511,350	(511,350)	0%
Total	14,820,000	10,944,810	3,875,190	26%