

Sahel Crisis

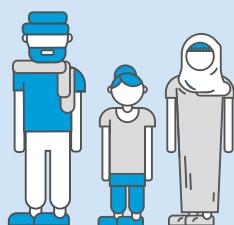
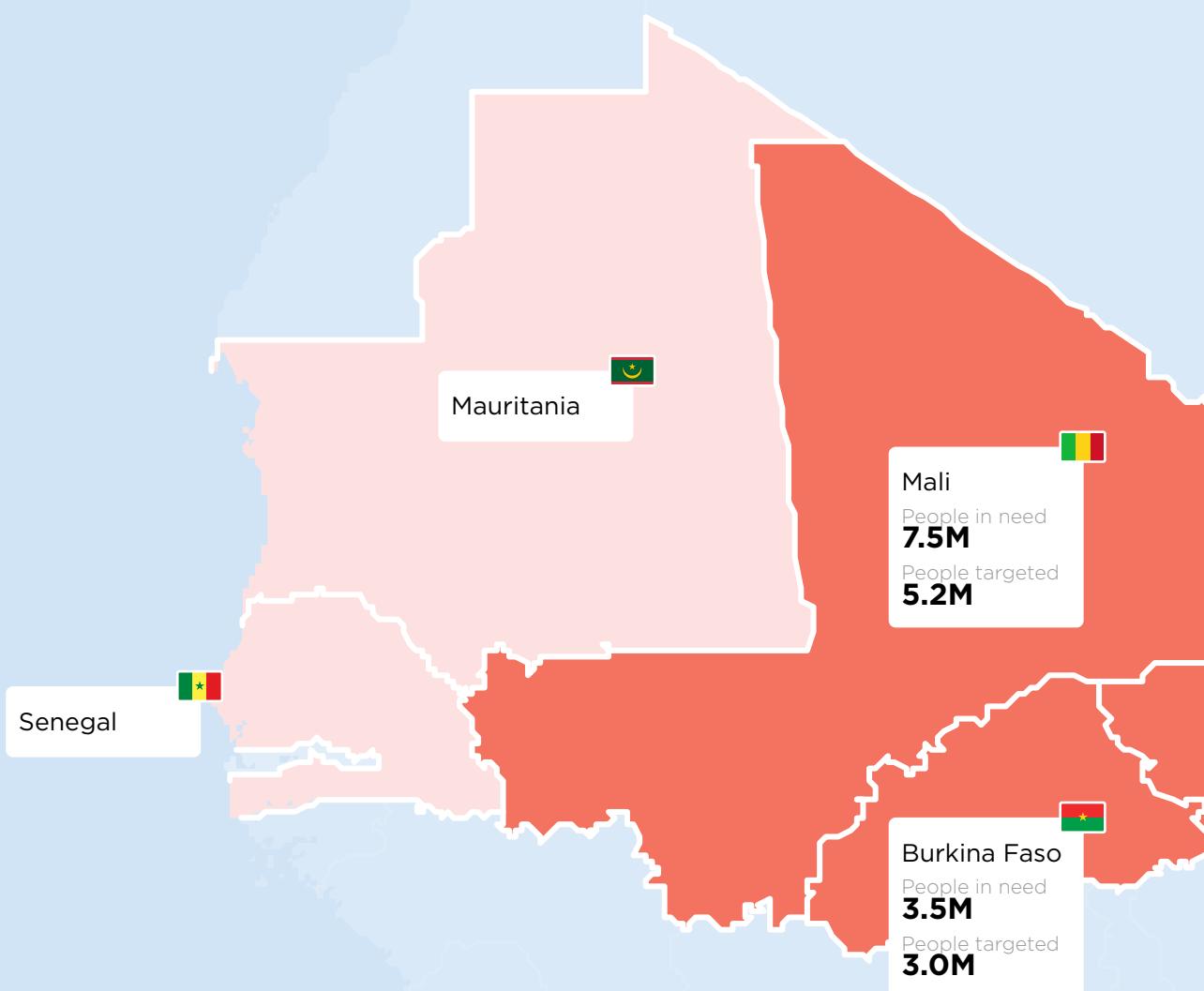
Humanitarian Needs and Requirements Overview

2022



The Sahel Crisis

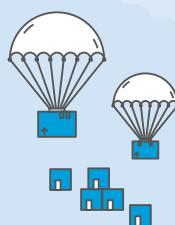
in numbers



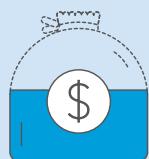
122.9M
total population



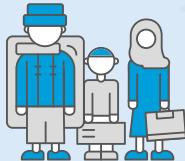
30.4M
people in need



20.7M
people targeted



\$3.8B
total requirement

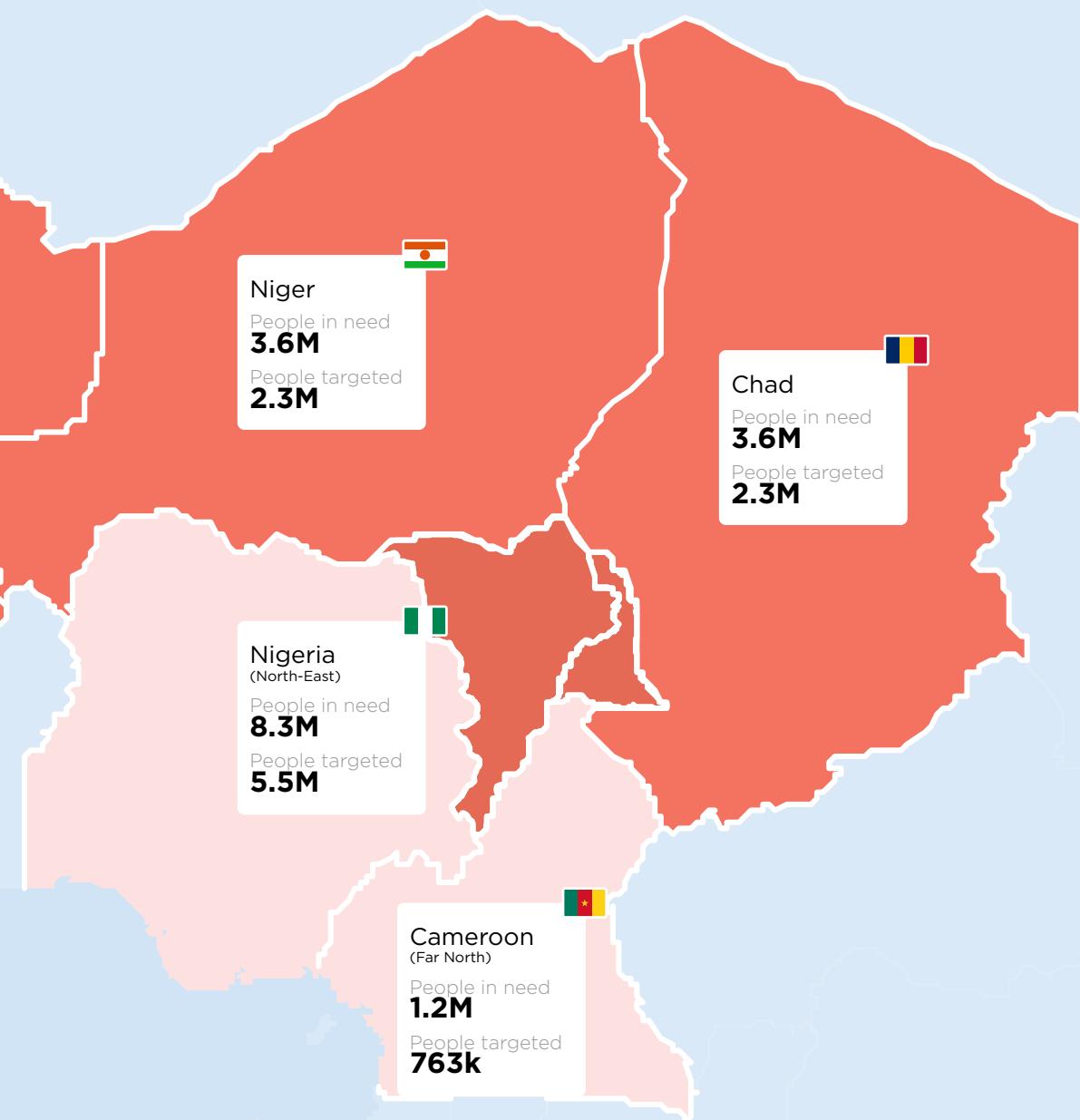


14.4M
food insecure
people

6.3M
displaced
people

10,697
deaths during
4,492 attacks

290
non-functional
health centres





OCHA/ Giles Clarke

**As the crisis worsens,
The severity of needs deepens**



OCHA/Eve Sabbagh

**Over 30 million
people will require assistance in 2022**

As the Sahel crisis ¹rapidly worsens, the region's humanitarian needs are reaching unprecedented heights. Conflict, climate shocks, chronic vulnerabilities and endemic poverty are putting millions at risk. Increasing violence has forced more people to flee their homes than ever before. A dramatic food crisis is wreaking havoc on conflict-affected areas while the already precarious nutrition situation is further deteriorating, and access to livelihoods and basic social services is hampered. The fragility of institutions and the poor governance as well as the weak regional integration limit trade exchanges and negatively impact the free movement of people and goods.

Over 30 million Sahelians, most of whom are women and children, will require life-saving assistance and protection in 2022, an increase of almost two million from 2021. Burkina Faso, Cameroon (Far North), Chad, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria (North-East) have developed Response Plans for 2022, requiring a total of US \$3.8 billion. To scale up aid operations, coordination, adequate resources, and a principled response are all critical.

¹ Where not stated otherwise, Sahel and all related figures are referring to Burkina Faso, northern Cameroon (Far North region), Chad, Mali, Niger, north-east Nigeria (Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states). Requirement and funding figures are for entire HRP/country. Food security and nutrition figures also include Senegal and Mauritania.



OCHA/Giles Clarke

**Violence is wreaking
havoc on vulnerable communities**

Insecurity and violence

have multiple cascading effects that affect the lives of millions of people

Armed conflict remains the main driver of needs in the region. Multi-year security trends confirm a context of degradation in the Central Sahel² and the Lake Chad Basin. Since 2015, the number of security incidents in the Central Sahel has increased eighteen-fold, with the number of fatalities increasing more than twelve-fold and security incidents in the Lake Chad Basin doubling.³ Violence has multiple cascading effects that affect the lives of millions of people, resulting in significant humanitarian needs and extensive damage to services, existing local protection mechanisms, and socio-economic infrastructure, as well as disrupting the future of youth, particularly girls.

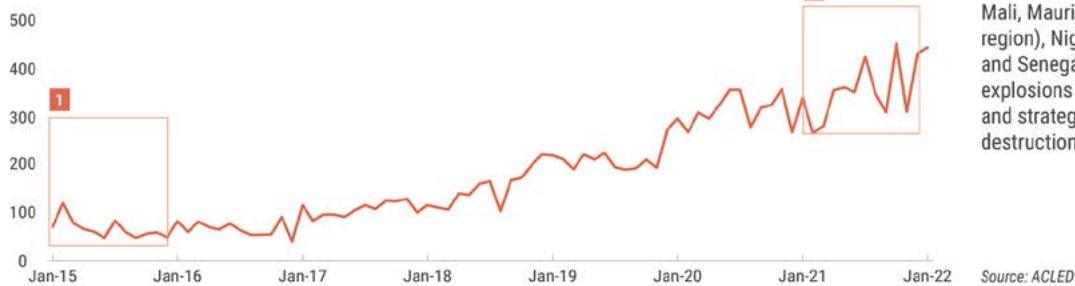
This occurs in a context where civil status, education, and maternal mortality are already among the most challenging in the world.

Insecurity and violence are threatening lives and livelihoods, disrupting access to health, education and water, sanitation, and hygiene services, as well as civil documentation and housing, land and property rights, depriving violence-affected communities of vital services and land, increasing human rights violations, gender-based violence, and sexual abuses, and jeopardizing social cohesion, resulting in a vicious cycle of vulnerability.

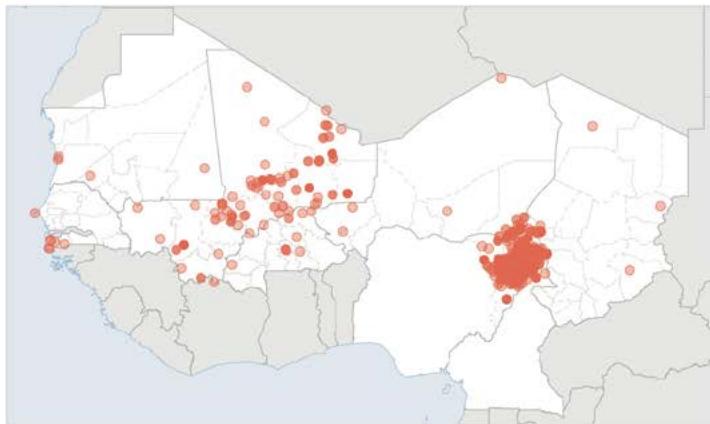
2 The Central Sahel includes Burkina Faso, Mali, and Western Niger

3 ACLED data: <https://acleddata.com/dashboard/#/dashboard>

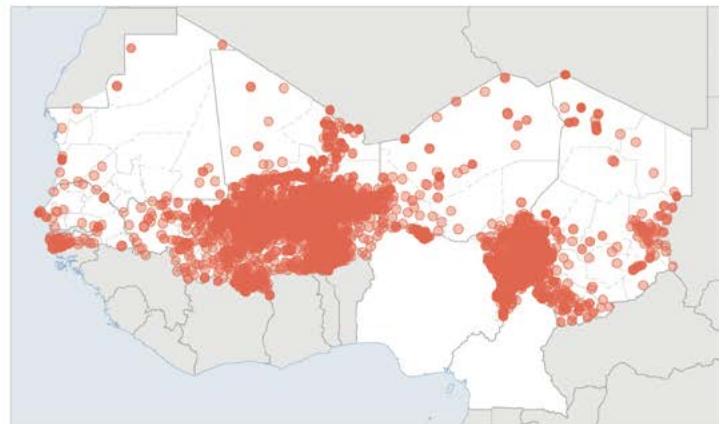
SECURITY SITUATION TREND



1 January - December 2015



2 January - December 2021



The maps and graph focus on Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, parts of Cameroon (Far North region), Nigeria (Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states) and Senegal. Security incidents include battles, explosions / remote violence, violence against civilians and strategic developments (looting / property destruction).

Uprooting lives and livelihoods



2.4 million

people displaced in the Central Sahel
as of the end of May 2022

Violence in the Central Sahel and the Lake Chad basin shows no signs of abating: security incidents, attacks, and kidnappings are daily occurrences for millions of civilians caught up in conflict, between armed groups, the state, and military operations and in intercommunal violence, and forced to flee their homes in search of safety. Conflict and worsening insecurity in the Sahel have driven over 6.3 million people from their homes, more than ever before.

As of the end of May 2022, the number of people displaced by the crisis in the Central Sahel reached 2.4 million, with women and children accounting for more than half. This represents a 40 per cent increase in a single year, and a 56 per cent increase in Burkina Faso, the country with the highest caseload in the region⁴. The Central Sahel is a region characterized by mixed

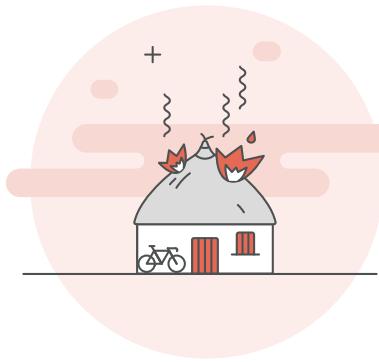
migrations with large refugee populations, creating a complex protection environment. For example, in addition to the 370,548 internally displaced persons in Mali at the end of April 2022, the country was hosting nearly 13,000 refugees from Niger and over 17,000 refugees from Burkina Faso.

More people are displaced than ever before across the Lake Chad. As of the end of May 2022, countries in the Lake Chad Basin⁵ were hosting an estimated 5.3 million displaced persons, refugees, and returnees seeking refuge from the region's complex and compounded crises. About 75 per cent of this caseload is based in Nigeria.

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees often live in unsafe conditions with inadequate shelter in flood-prone locations, and with high risk of fire outbreaks. For far too many women and girls in places

⁴ 1.9 million internally displaced persons

⁵ Countries in the Lake Chad Basin include Chad, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Niger



More than
6.3M

people forced to flee
their homes because of
security incidents, attacks,
and kidnappings
in the Sahel



as of the end
of May 2022

2.4M
people displaced
by the crisis in
the Central Sahel



+50%
of them are
women and children

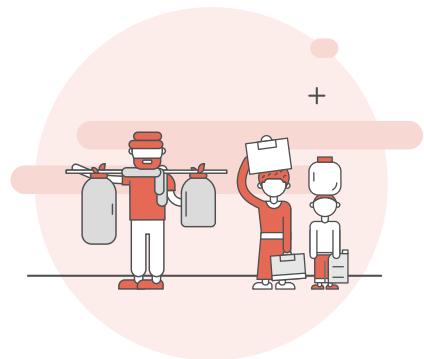


+40%
increase over
the year 2021

An estimated

5.3M

displaced, refugees, and
returnees were hosted
in the Lake Chad Basin
countries seeking refuge
from the crisis



of displacement, gender-based violence is a daily occurrence. Forced marriage and child marriage, physical and sexual violence, and sexual exploitation all contribute to thousands of people feeling trapped and powerless, especially women and girls. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, these densely populated areas face increased risks of disease transmission. In addition, displacement often occurs in areas with scarce services and resources, putting additional pressure on already highly vulnerable communities and increasing

the likelihood of further instability. Coping strategies for displaced populations vary according to age and gender. Women and children are exposed to negative coping mechanisms with major protection and gender-based violence risks. Men are more likely to face physical violence, death, or arbitrary arrest and may displace their families and opt for pendular movements, transferring some tasks to women and children.

Housing, Land and Property Rights

Large-scale displacement in the Sahel has resulted in violations of housing, land, and property (HLP) rights for many displaced people as well as vulnerable host communities. Access to land and natural resources has been significantly reduced because of violent conflict, and women are disproportionately affected, as they may lack male relatives who can provide access to such rights. Unresolved HLP issues and disputes represent an important obstacle to any type of durable solution, whether displaced persons are confronted with secondary occupation of their initial homes and land, or whether they struggle to access housing and land in their place of displacement, often accompanied by threats of eviction. Because HLP rights are cross-cutting, coordination among various stakeholders is critical, but generally under-resourced and under-funded in the Sahel. More dedicated HLP funding is required to equip actors with technical HLP expertise, as well as Shelter, WASH, Livelihoods/Food Security, and Education actors, to deliver integrated responses and ensure due diligence for better HLP rights realization.

Crisis spilling over into neighbouring countries



OCHA/Ivo Brandau

The security situation in the Central Sahel has deteriorated to such an extent that the violence is now spilling over into the northern parts of the coastal countries. Spillover effects, already experienced in 2021, are projected to intensify and affect an increasing number of people.

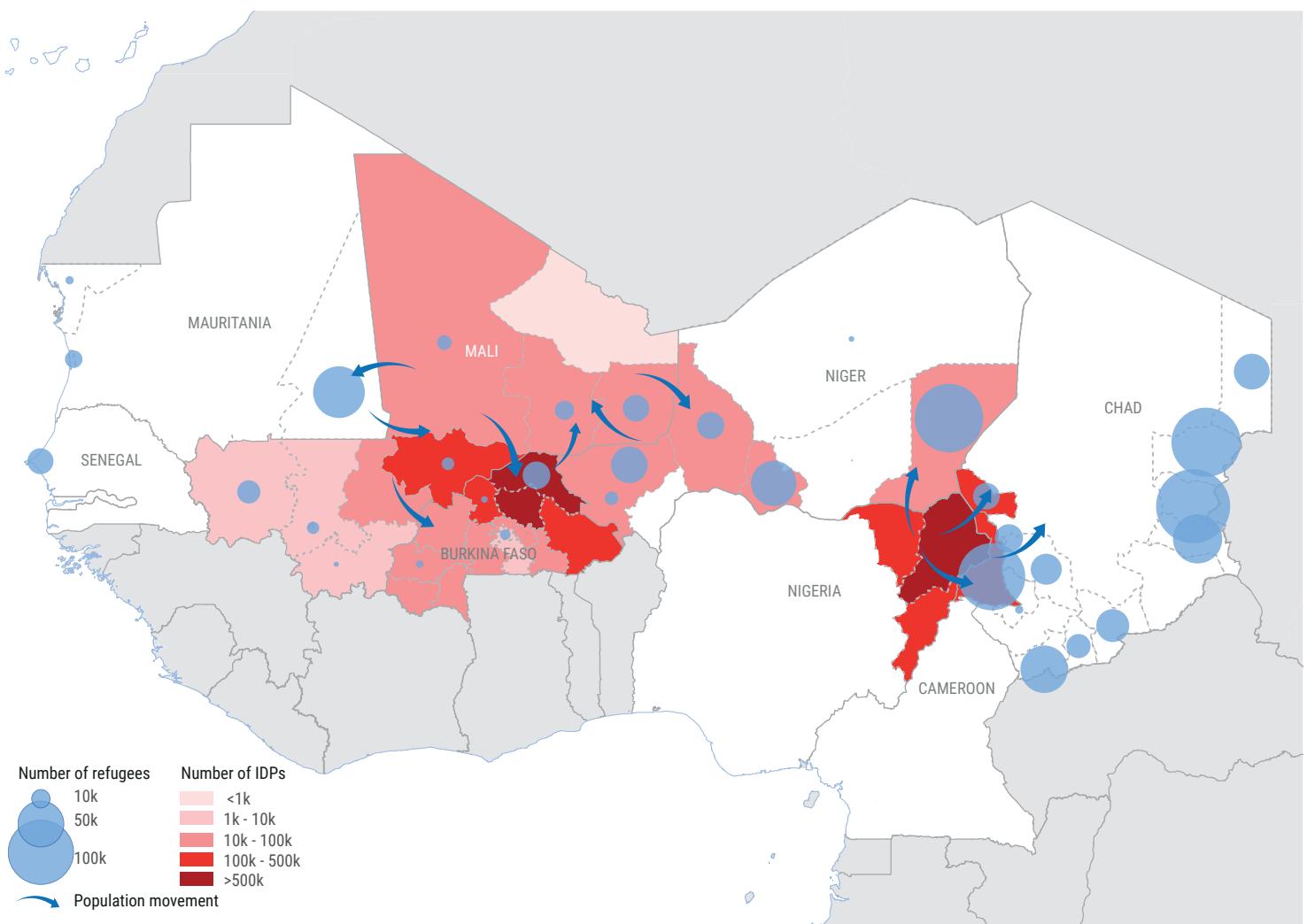
Cross-border areas, such as Burkina Faso and Benin, and northwest Nigeria and Maradi in Niger have seen an upsurge in violence in recent years. Violence could spread further into the Gulf of Guinea sub-region, including Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin, and Togo. These countries are divided by vast, porous national borders straddling large national reserves that are difficult to control.

In Côte d'Ivoire and Benin, the number of security incidents increased ten-fold between 2015 and 2021.⁶ While the threat in these coastal countries is still contained in intensity and geographically limited, with hundreds of thousands displaced and hunger on the rise, the situation could degrade rapidly. In 2021, nearly 6,000 people fled violence in Burkina Faso and reached the northeast areas of Côte d'Ivoire's Tougo region.

Benin is strengthening its military system in response to incursions by non-state armed groups (NSAGs) based in Niger and Burkina Faso. Nonetheless, some cross into the three regions of Alibori, Borgou and Atacora, which share borders with Niger, Burkina Faso, and Nigeria.

The humanitarian community is mobilized to support preventive in-country action aiming at tackling these growing humanitarian crises. While country teams and humanitarian actors in coastal countries are working to develop and update emergency preparedness planning to strengthen readiness capacities, the complex social dimension of violence calls for the implementation of multiparty approaches, including preventive development activities.

⁶ <https://acleddata.com/dashboard/#/dashboard>



**The crisis hits
vulnerable communities the hardest**



The crisis in the Sahel is considered a protection crisis: it is multi-faceted, rooted in a lack of access to services, inequalities, and denial of rights, all of which contribute to or exacerbate grievances and discontent. Moreover, inequalities and grievances are fundamental drivers of the current security situation, which has seen the multiplication of non-state armed groups as well as self-defense groups. Therefore, a triple nexus approach must be strengthened to address the root causes, emergency response, and solutions to the current situation, engaging development, and peace partners.

People in the Sahel continue to face threats to their safety and overall protection

because of the combined effects of violence, displacement, and insecurity. Communities in the region are seeking safety while being caught up in forced displacements and intercommunity conflicts or tensions. Natural disasters, climate change-related events, and high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition all have a negative impact on wellbeing, empowerment, and protection. Young people, children, women, and girls are especially vulnerable. Around 60 per cent of the population in the Sahel is under the age of 18. Governments made substantial efforts to ensure universal access to primary education, resulting in relative equality of access for girls and boys.

Civil Documentation

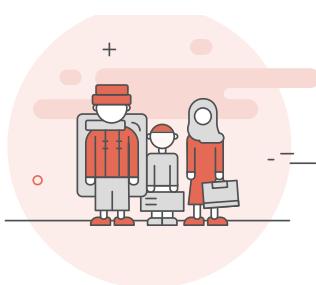
While Sahel States had already encountered challenges with birth registration and identity documents prior to the current crises, displacement has exacerbated the situation, leaving many vulnerable persons undocumented. This creates significant barriers to education, livelihoods, freedom of movement, employment, and income generating opportunities, and increases the risk of statelessness for children born during the crisis, both among IDP and refugee populations. Since many civil status offices across the region are either dysfunctional or have limited capacity, collaboration between humanitarian and development organizations as well as authorities is critical to restoring vulnerable populations' access to national birth registration systems including for refugees.

However, sharp disparities in access to higher education exist, to the detriment of girls. Girls in the region marry seven years before boys on average. During times of crisis and stress, negative coping strategies include earlier marriages for girls, who marry nearly two years earlier than those outside the Sahel, namely in West and Central Africa. Increasing age disparities between spouses and early and multiple births are all factors that contribute to child malnutrition.

With less access to services, young women, pregnant and lactating women, and youths are more vulnerable to inequalities in legal protection, higher maternal mortality,

increased risk of dropping out of school, loss of work opportunities, increased suspicion of taking part in the conflict, and loss of opportunities. As a coping strategy, these can drive young men to seize the socioeconomic opportunity provided by armed groups, as the primary motivator for people to engage with an armed actor is economical.⁷

On the other hand, men's risk avoidance and protection strategies also result in a transfer of tasks and a greater exposure of women and children, leading to increasing grievances and a higher risk of domestic violence.



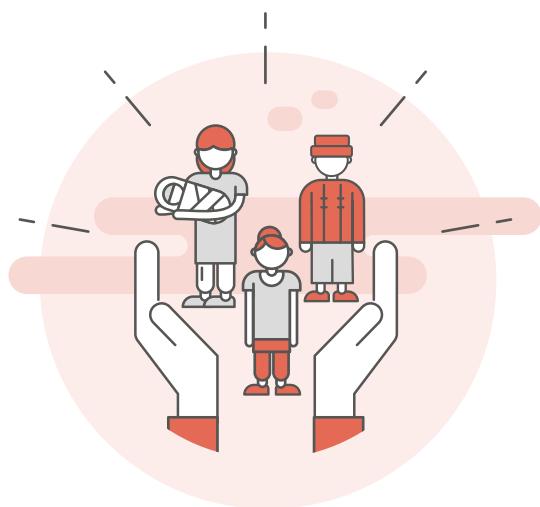
Around
60%
of the population in the Sahel
is under the age of 18

68%
of GBV survivors are IDPs
and refugees, with women and
girls highly at risk

Girls in the
region marry
7
years
before boys
on average



Child
marriage
represents
18%
of the first GBV
in Central Sahel



More than
800k
girls and boys are at an increased
risk of recruitment by armed
groups in the Sahel

Around
75%
of survivors assisted across
the Sahel have experienced IPV

**Women and girls are
the forgotten front-liners**



OCHA/Federica Gabellini

Displaced women and girls

are among those most at risk of gender-based violence

Women and girls are bearing the brunt of the violence and are at heightened risk of various forms of gender-based violence. They are primarily impacted by harmful social norms and multiple discriminations based on age and gender, further exacerbated by the socioeconomic impact of the crisis, climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, and other epidemics. Women and girls in local communities are exposed to widespread and increasing risk of being abducted, married by force, sexually assaulted and raped. Intimate partner violence is the most reported form of GBV. Displaced women and girls are among those most at risk of gender-based violence in the Sahel. IDPs and refugees accounted for more than two-thirds (68 per cent) of GBV survivors seeking specialized assistance in 2021.⁸

GBV actors are adapting their services to better respond to intimate partner violence (IPV) and sexual violence. Even in humanitarian settings, IPV is the most frequently reported incident among women and girls. Approximately 75 per cent of survivors assisted in service provision points across the Sahel have experienced IPV. Sexual violence accounts for 15 per cent of all GBV incidents reported, despite being under-reported due to stigma. However, service coverage remains woefully inadequate; in Burkina Faso, for example, specialized GBV services cover only 18 per cent of priority areas.⁹

In this context, humanitarian actors must consider women's specific needs and be aware of the benefits of increased female leadership in designing and implementing humanitarian programmes.

⁸ GBV area of responsibility (AoR) data

⁹ GBV AoR dashboard

A generation without an education



As violence weakens education systems and displaces more people, large numbers of children are left without an education and face dire protection issues. In addition, attacks on education are on the rise, affecting schools, students, teachers, and communities. As of the end of May, 7,878 schools were closed in the Sahel due to violence, a 56 per cent increase since 2021.

Whenever out of school or left without any education, children, and youth, including refugees and those internally displaced, are more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. There has been an increase in reported cases of child recruitment, child marriages, and early pregnancies among school-age girls, which the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated.

Forced and child marriage, unintended pregnancies, and domestic violence account for more than half of all reported incidents. Most communities identified child marriage as the greatest risk for girls; in the Central Sahel, 18 per cent of communities reported child marriage as their first gender-based violence-related concern.

Children in the Central Sahel already display psychological signs of the region's widespread insecurity. Recent surveys show that 53 per cent of children in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger do not feel safe at school. High levels of stress cause children to underperform in school; 62 per cent of children report being unable to concentrate, and 91 per cent report having difficulties dealing with emotions such as anger and anxiety.¹⁰

Overall, this will have dramatic long-term psychosocial consequences for children, affecting their behavior and learning capacities and impacting countries' socioeconomic development, resulting in a generation of children falling behind.

Humanitarian actors must prioritize and fund measures to prevent, mitigate, and respond to school closures and attacks on education. Education is critical for breaking the cycle of conflict by providing learning, life skills, social cohesion, and preventing children's use by armed actors, gender-based violence, or forced marriage.¹¹

¹⁰ NRC - Central Sahel: Improve children's wellbeing and learning - Increasing psychosocial support in schools (January 2022) <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/west-and-central-africa/document/central-sahel-improve-childrens-wellbeing-and-learning>

¹¹ Plan International. Crisis in the Central Sahel: Education, Vital to Protect Girls



7,878

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High levels
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53%

of children in
the Central Sahel
do not feel safe
at school

This will
result in
a generation
of children
falling behind

To mitigate this challenge, governments endorsement and mitigation of the Safe Schools Declaration are essential. There is also a critical need to ensure that:

- ↳ Attacks on education are systematically investigated.
- ↳ There is an end to the military use of schools.
- ↳ There is support for the continuation of safe education during armed conflict and restored access to safe education after an attack.
- ↳ There is reinforced monitoring and reporting of attacks on education.
- ↳ Adequate resources and training for teachers are available to support children's safety and wellbeing of children who have undergone trauma.
- ↳ Schools become safe places again and can play their essential role in helping children regain a sense of normality
- ↳ Teachers' protection and wellbeing are promoted and supported.

All governments, state and non-state armed groups, and other stakeholders must uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law. Parties to the conflict must adopt and implement the Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict; sign and implement Geneva Call's Deed of Commitment for the Protection of Children from the Effects of Armed Conflict; end all attacks on education; stop recruitment and use of children under 18 years old; and take all steps necessary to prevent SGBV by combatants and comply with International Humanitarian Law/International Human Rights law.

A long journey ahead to leave no one behind



In terms of inclusion, other key considerations are critical also when looking at persons with disabilities. For instance, the lack of reliable data on the vulnerability of persons with disabilities does not facilitate their inclusion in national development policies, strategies, and programmes. This is also true for humanitarian actors whose low level of knowledge on the issues of disability, specific needs, and protection risks in the context of humanitarian emergencies limit the inclusion of people with disabilities in the design and implementation of their interventions. As a result, 81.4 per cent of persons with disabilities surveyed do not access humanitarian aid in Niger¹²; 20 per cent of surveyed IDPs in North Cameroon did not receive any humanitarian aid¹³, while 82 per cent of people with disabilities in Burkina Faso reported having difficulty reaching public buildings, 80 per cent water points, 77 per cent distribution sites and 65 per cent toilets.¹⁴

Notably, persons with disabilities are over three times more likely to face violence in a humanitarian context. Women with disabilities are more than ten times as likely to face violence because of their gender in both development and humanitarian settings. As part of a gap analysis of the inclusion of people with disabilities and senior people in humanitarian response, it was indicated that there is a "need for high-level buy-in and senior management support. Without this, the potential for organizations to internalize guidance, try new approaches, and learn from mistakes appears limited. Leadership was considered essential to ensure inclusion is prioritized and not overlooked, particularly during the early stages of response."¹⁵ Moreover, additional funding is needed to strengthen the capacity of individuals with disabilities and organizations of persons with disabilities to guarantee accountability of governmental parties or duty bearers.

12 Humanité et inclusion. Evaluation des besoins. Niger, Juin 2021

13 Human Rights Watch, 2019, Cameroun : Les personnes handicapées prises au piège du fait de la crise <https://www.hrw.org/fr/modal/38961>

14 Humanité et Inclusion. Evaluation des besoins PH. Burkina Faso, 2019

15 Elrha, Gap Analysis: The Inclusion of People with Disability and Older People in Humanitarian Response. October 2020.

A worsening food and nutrition crisis



Over 18.6 million are expected to experience severe food insecurity

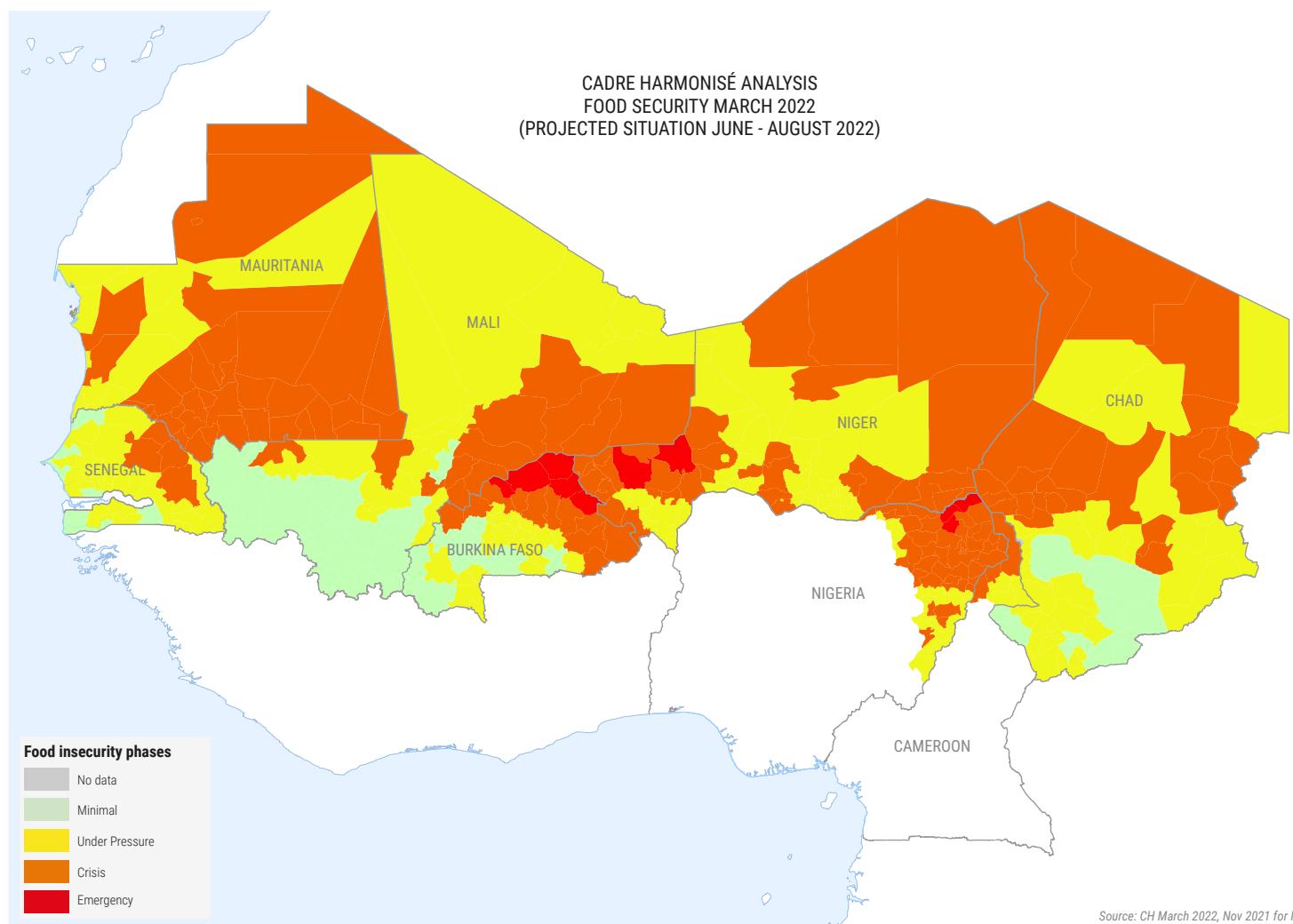
Under the combined effects of erratic rainfall, record-high food prices, and further security deterioration, the Sahel is likely to reach the highest number of acutely food insecure people in the last eight years. The analysis of food security data from 2022 indicates a dramatic deterioration, which is worsening significantly as the pastoral and agricultural seasons approach.¹⁶ Between June and August 2022, over 18.6 million people (15 per cent of the region's total population) are expected to experience severe food insecurity (phases 3 to 4), including 2.1 million people experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity (phase 4). Niger and Nigeria's Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states have been hit the hardest, accounting for more than 46 per cent of the total food insecure people in the Sahel. Niger is experiencing a particularly severe deterioration, with the projected number of food-insecure people nearly

doubling that of the same season in 2021. Furthermore, the estimate for the projected period (June-August 2022) represents a 189 per cent increase over the 5-year average (2017-2021).

The restrictive measures of mobility including borders closure, the proliferation of checkpoints, the prohibition of the use of motorcycles, of the cultivation of certain arable lands, and of certain products or certain tall plants due to security concerns significantly affect the production and availability of food.

Aside from security concerns, several countries in the region, including Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, and Nigeria, have been impacted by climate change, resulting in significant rainfall deficits at the end of the season.

¹⁶ Cadre Harmonisé. A methodology like the IPC for the classification of Food Security. It is used in West Africa and Sahel including Nigeria. Material primarily developed in French. IPC is used in all other regions of the world, including East, Central and Southern African countries. CH and IPC are highly comparable



According to experts, the situation's impact in 2021 will be comparable to the severe drought years of 1983, 2004, and 2011. Indeed, the analyses show that the rains started late and ended early. Agricultural output forecasts show a 12 per cent drop in regional cereal production compared to last year, with Chad (-47 %) and Niger (-36 %) reporting the steepest declines. COVID-19's socioeconomic impact and restriction measures contributed to higher inflation rates and decreased food availability.

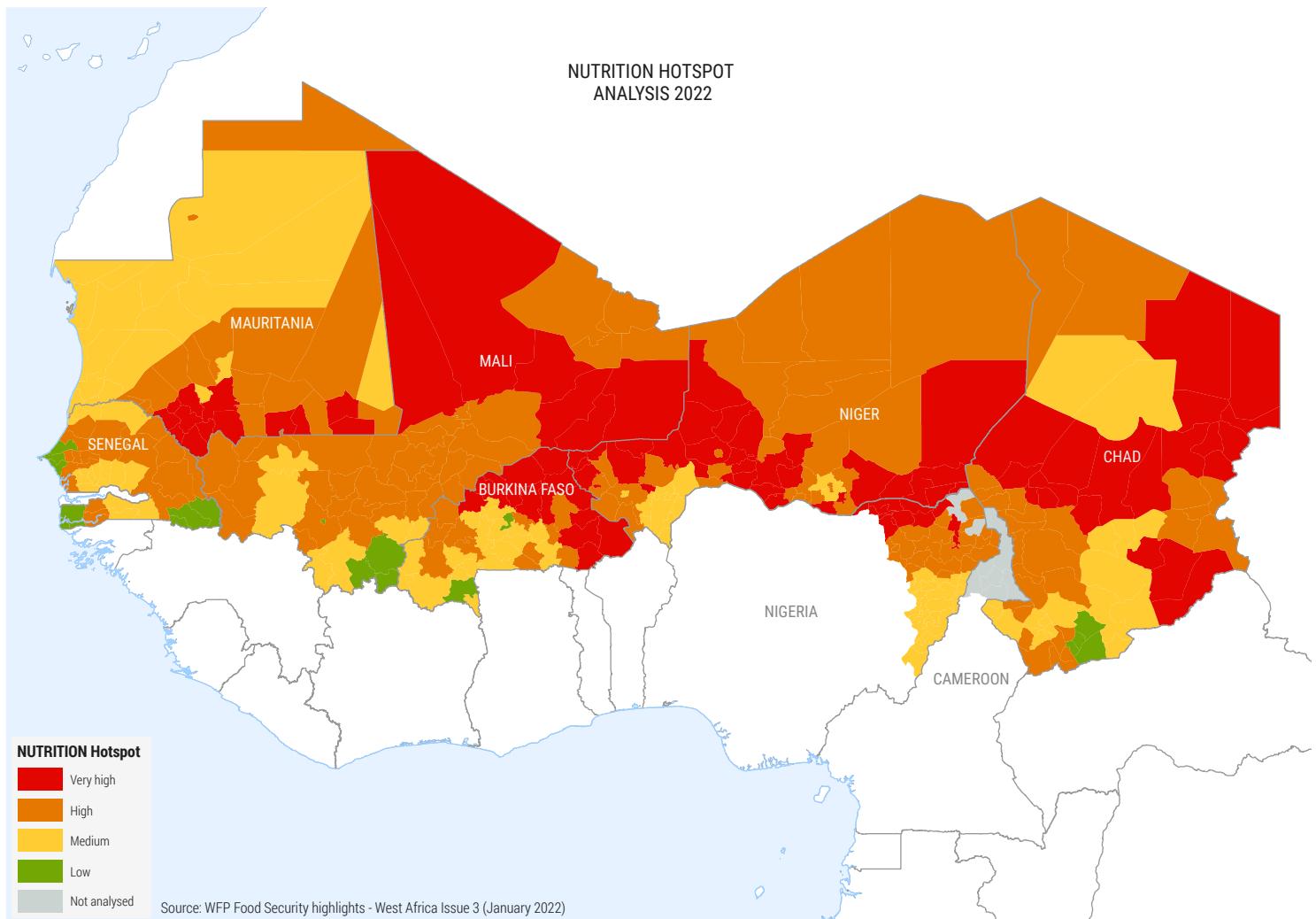
Several other factors contribute to the dramatic deterioration of food security including sharp increases in food prices on domestic and international markets because of reduced production, stock retention, reduced market availability, the ECOWAS sanctions on Mali,¹⁷ and increased transportation costs, all of which have resulted in high inflation and a decrease in household purchasing power.

Furthermore, while the Sahel is still trying to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the crisis in Ukraine is further aggravating the situation. If the crisis becomes protracted, the region's problems will be exacerbated with dire economic and political consequences.

With one-third of the world's wheat supply coming from Ukraine and Russia, hunger in the region will worsen because of the ongoing armed conflict between these two countries. Countries in the Sahel region, which are already food insecure, rely on wheat supplies from Ukraine and Russia, and the current conflict has already affected food prices, exacerbating the hunger crisis in countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger.

For example, in Burkina Faso the cash working group indicated anticipated a 20 per cent increase in the household minimum expenditure basket due to the Ukraine impact

¹⁷ Sanctions imposed by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on Mali froze state assets, closed its borders, and suspended non-essential financial transactions following the failure of transitional authorities in the country to organize elections



on global markets and supply chains. In addition, some key staples in the Sahel increased by 30 to 50 percent against the five-year price average¹⁸ assessed at the beginning of 2022. Furthermore, sanctions on Russian procurement and transactions could have a knock-on effect on humanitarian operations in the region.

Rising energy costs affect the price of fertilizers which the region imports in significant quantities. In some countries in the Sahel, the Phosphate fertilizer costs increased by 31 percent. As the Sahel relies heavily on chemical fertilizers due to low natural soil fertility, such increase in fertilizer prices will have a significant negative impact on production in the arid areas, where the worst agricultural year since 2011 has been recorded and will additionally compromise governments' fertilizer distribution subsidy schemes.

The food and nutrition crisis continues to disproportionately affect children and women. In the Sahel, 7.7 million children under the age of five are expected to suffer from malnutrition, of which 1.8 million are severely malnourished. On average, 9 per cent of children with severe wasting are admitted as inpatients due to their critical medical conditions associated with the most severe form of acute malnutrition. These children are at least nine times more likely to die than their healthy peers and in urgent need of clinical and nutritional care. Additionally, 221,518 pregnant and lactating women are affected by acute malnutrition in the Central Sahel, reinforcing the generational cycle of malnutrition. The "Fill the Nutrient Gap"¹⁹ analysis tool indicated that access to food remains a major challenge in the Sahel with 1 in 2 households unable to afford nutritious diets.

¹⁸ WFP, Food Security Implications of the Ukrainian Crisis on the Western Africa Region Regional Bureau for Western Africa, March 2022

¹⁹ WFP's Fill the Nutrient Gap tool analyses the nutrition situation in a country and identifies the barriers faced by the most vulnerable to accessing and consuming healthy and nutritious foods



Over
18.6M

are expected to experience severe food insecurity at crisis and emergency levels

+878k

increase over 2021, expected in 2022 lean season

221k

pregnant and lactating women are affected by acute malnutrition



1 in 2

household is unable to afford nutrition diets

12%

drop in regional cereal production over 2021

7.7M

children under 5 are expected to suffer from malnutrition



If no urgent measures are taken to prevent malnutrition, the situation could deteriorate rapidly due to food insecurity, violence, and displacement. Sustainable relief, health system strengthening, long-term prevention actions through different systems (social protection, WASH, food, and health) and early detection of wasting at the household level are needed to address undernutrition among children under five and women of reproductive age and to strengthen systems and community resilience.

The alarming food insecurity and malnutrition are increasing protection risks. Food shortages and inadequate access to essential services force affected households to resort to negative coping mechanisms, increasing the risk of survival sex and child marriage.

The failure of successive emergency and development responses to address food insecurity situations, particularly the development of rural areas and pastoral populations, has exacerbated feelings of

discontent, inequality, and exclusion among certain segments of the Sahel population. With over 42 per cent of the population under the age of 14 and 61 per cent under the age of 18, young people are disproportionately affected by shortages and frustrations.

Conflict also affects production, leading it to decrease. Insecurity and food scarcity result in forced displacement. Assistance and interventions in response to forcible displacement are insufficient as many displaced people live in urban or peri-urban areas that are becoming increasingly isolated, with significant restrictions on movement (e.g., Djibo, Bankass), a reduction in cultivable land, and increased pressure on accessible resources. Unemployment or lack of socioeconomic opportunities is the primary factor that contributes to people engaging with armed actors, reinforcing the cycle of food insecurity, production, and so on.

While food assistance is critical, it must be combined with responses aimed at mitigating rights violations (social cohesion, case management, and mental health) and altering the root causes of these cycles through adaptation to the current environment, including urbanization. This situation requires coherent solutions in the short and long term. Emergency aid must be stepped up, while structural needs must be addressed to avoid a further catastrophic deterioration of the situation.

Providing food and nutrition assistance to vulnerable households through national response plans remains the primary priority, accompanied by resilience programmes that boost food production and the market to strengthen affected people's livelihoods.

Urgent actions must be taken to ensure access to food-insecure communities to prevent the erosion of livelihoods and save lives. Humanitarian assistance in hard-to-reach areas should be guaranteed to help the most vulnerable groups. In addition, access to farms and grazing areas should be facilitated to strengthen people's livelihoods.

Food security in Mauritania is inextricably tied to the 2021 rainy season, which was marked by poor spatiotemporal distribution and a precipitation deficit. According to forecasts, this situation is expected to deteriorate in 2022 (in September 2021, a rainfall deficit of 81 per cent was reported compared to the same period in 2020). During the 2022 lean season, the number of people facing food insecurity at crisis and emergency levels will increase by 82 per cent compared to the 2021 lean season, from 484,151 to 878,921 individuals. The dramatic deterioration of food security results from the combination of several factors, high inflation rates, declining household purchasing power, the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 and access to livelihoods for local communities, the impact of the security deterioration in neighboring Mali, and the socioeconomic pressure resulting from the presence of 77,000 refugees in the north-eastern areas.

Food insecurity is having a dramatic impact on malnutrition. According to the results of the 2021 national nutrition survey, the Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence in Mauritania is above the "alert" threshold of 10 per cent, while in the South of Mauritania, GAM rates exceed the emergency threshold of 15 per cent.

Senegal is expected to see a 61 per cent increase in food insecurity, from 549,000 to 881,225 people facing crisis and emergency situations. Bambey, Diourbel, and Kanel are the most affected areas. This deterioration results from the combination of several factors, including the residual socioeconomic impact of COVID-19, the decline in accessible food stock, and the effects of reported cereal production shortages. For instance, the price of maize has climbed by 60 per cent over the last five years. According to the 2019 national nutrition survey, the GAM prevalence in Senegal is 8.2 per cent, with a higher prevalence (above 10 per cent) in the Regions of Louga and Matam, and in the Podor department. The analysis shows that the determinants of acute and chronic malnutrition in children under five years in the Matam, Kaolack et Kaffrine Regions include household food insecurity as well as inadequate access to WASH services.

1 Observatoire de la Sécurité Alimentaire, Novembre 2021

Climate shocks: the Sahel among the hardest hit



Temperatures in the Sahel are rising 1.5 times faster than the global average

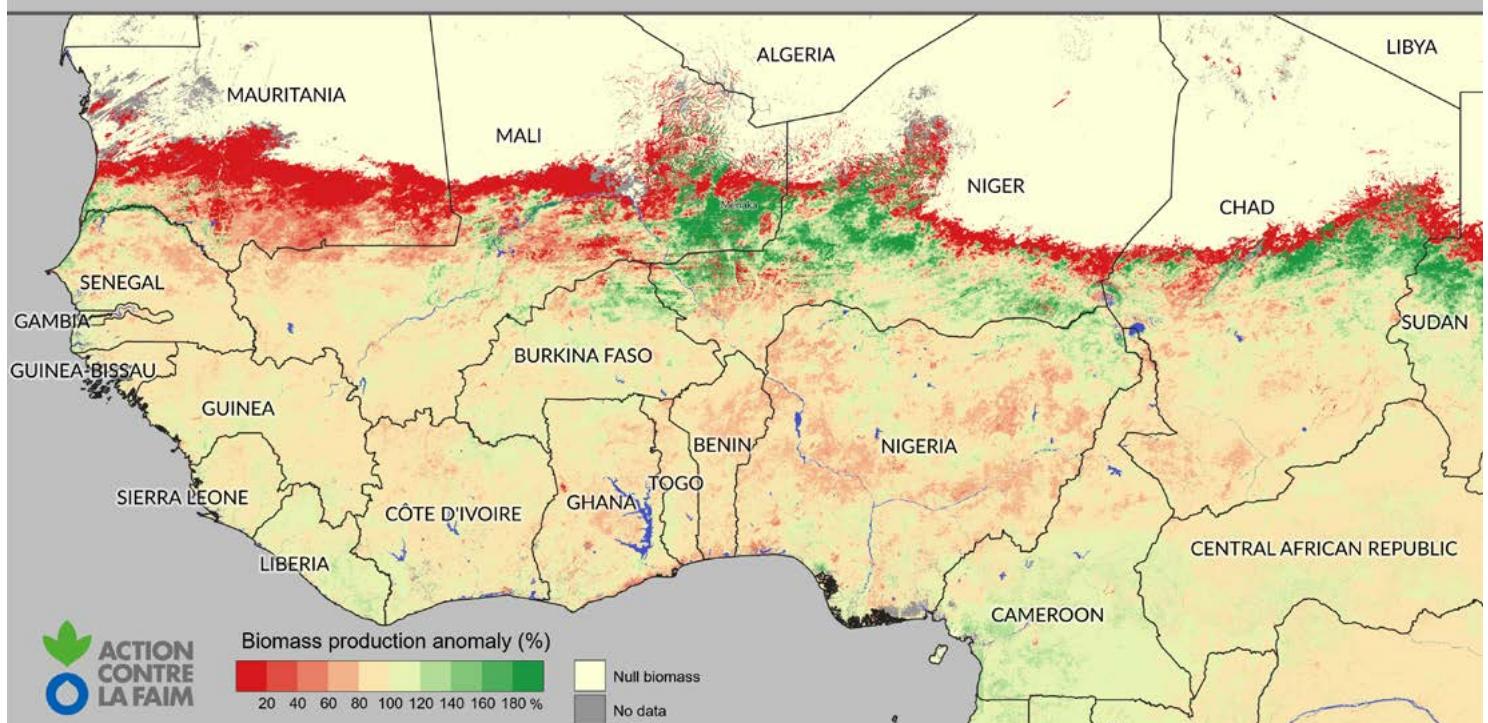
The region is becoming increasingly arid and is battling desertification while also dealing with the devastating consequences of seasonal flooding. Climate change directly impacts people's lives, safety, and wellbeing in the Sahel, both through slow-onset effects such as rising temperatures and drought and through sudden-onset disasters such as flooding. The Sahel is one of the regions hit hardest by slow-onset climate events.

Temperatures in the Sahel are rising 1.5 times faster than the global average.²⁰ Sudden-onset disasters such as floods almost doubled between 2015 and 2021. These combined challenges affect the geography of food production and plant and animal diseases; without action, the agricultural output might reduce drastically in some regions.

As climate becomes more volatile, rains heavier, and floods more frequent, a timely humanitarian response becomes increasingly challenging. Climate change strongly impacts humanitarian access. Floods, landslides, and cut-off roads delay the delivery of life saving assistance and put humanitarian workers under great risk.

Climate change effects lead to an increase in already severe humanitarian needs. Adequate responses are critical to address the needs of affected populations.

Biomass production anomaly for 2021 expressed as a % of the 1999-2021 average



Across the Sahel, people are struggling to access water and food. The deteriorating security situation, along with limited access to food and nutrition services, exacerbates the effects of climate shocks, adversely damaging food crops and resulting in atypically high food costs.²¹

Climate hazards especially affect women and girls, who often bear a disproportionate burden to provide for their families, whether by forgoing meals to feed others or walking increasingly longer distances to find potable water, suitable food and firewood, whose availability is decreasing, while pressure on resources is increasing. For example, women and girls in the Lake Chad Basin are forced to walk longer distances to collect potable water due to drought, exposing them to greater risks of sexual violence when they are away from home.

Climate change in the Sahel also prompts people to modify their traditional migration patterns. Many people in the Sahel are now

forced to leave their homes due to declining rural agricultural and coastal fishery production and floods, landslides, and other disasters.²²

Property and communal loss, and scarcity of food and water, contribute to inter-communal conflicts over resources and lead to increased incidents, with violence increasing across the Sahel over the last decade, particularly in Nigeria, central Mali, and northern Burkina Faso. Demographic pressure, changes in land use, scarce resources, growing social inequalities, and eroding community trust lead to this increase. Nigeria has experienced the highest number of fatalities in the north-western, Middle Belt, and, more recently, in southern states. This trend has mainly been upward, with 2,647 deaths recorded in 2021 alone. In the Central Sahel, security challenges strongly hamper herd mobility and access to pasture and water resources.²³

21 Biomass Production at Rainy Mid-season 2021, Sahel Regional Bulletin, ACF

22 Human Rights Climate Change and Migration in the Sahel, OHCHR, November 2021

23 Biomass Production at Rainy Mid-season 2021, Sahel Regional Bulletin, ACF

Health under stress



The Sahel region faces a protracted and complex humanitarian crisis, characterized by armed conflicts, and an increase in the number of armed attacks targeting health care facilities and workers. In priority Sahel countries, the health system is in disarray. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has further impacted these countries' health systems.

The Sahel is also facing a slew of disease outbreaks, including Yellow Fever, Measles, Meningitis, Lassa Fever, Cholera, and Circulating Vaccine Derived Poliomyelitis Virus Type 2 (CVDPV2), with a high risk of food insecurity and malnutrition. Nigeria is currently experiencing a measles outbreak with confirmed Lassa fever; Meningitis has been reported in Niger, and CVDPV2 is circulating in several countries.

2021 has been the worst epidemic year for cholera in the last six years in the region, with over 131,000 cholera cases reported, including over 4,000 deaths. Most of the cases were reported in Nigeria where the cholera outbreak claimed many lives, including the North-East states of Bay, Adamawa, and Yobe. There were approximately 111,066 cases of cholera, with 3,604 deaths in Nigeria. As for Niger, the country experienced its worst cholera

outbreak in ten years, with over 5,500 cases and 166 deaths. In addition, this outbreak spread to neighbouring countries, with Mali reporting 13 cases and four deaths, and Burkina Faso reporting three cases. Cameroon is currently suffering from this outbreak, which is primarily affecting the country's southern region. The risk increases with the upcoming rainy season, and countries must prepare to respond immediately.

In the same vein, climate change raises the risk of floods, which can lead to the spread of malaria and other infectious diseases (cholera, dysentery, Rift Valley Fever), the destruction of farms and food crops, and an increase in food insecurity and malnutrition.

Furthermore, water vulnerability is extreme in the Sahel. According to UNICEF, it is even worse in Burkina Faso, where out of a total population of about 21 million, over 18 million, or 86 per cent, are experiencing high to extremely high levels of water vulnerability, including about 9.5 million children. Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria are the most affected by water vulnerability with over 75 million people, including about 40 million children, or 53 per cent, facing high to extremely high levels of water vulnerability.



131k

cholera cases, the worst
in the last six years
in the region

Over
4,000

cholera deaths registered, with
cases mostly reported in Nigeria

+75M

people affected by
water vulnerability,
53% are children

590k

confirmed cases of COVID-19
were recorded across
the region

Outbreaks

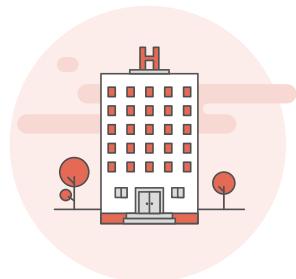
Yellow Fever
Measles
Meningitis
Lassa Fever
Cholera
Poliomyelitis Type 2

9,671

COVID-19 deaths registered
as of 13 June 2022

290

non-functional health centres
in the Central Sahel



COVID-19 compounding risks

The resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Sahel requires attention. In 2021 and the beginning of 2022, countries witnessed a significant increase in the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 as the number of variants circulating, such as Delta, Omicron, and others, hampered the response. The socioeconomic and socio-cultural impacts of COVID-19 have deeply affected coping mechanisms in the Sahel. Access to diagnostic, treatment and vaccines remains challenging. Less than 5 per cent of the Sahel population has been vaccinated.

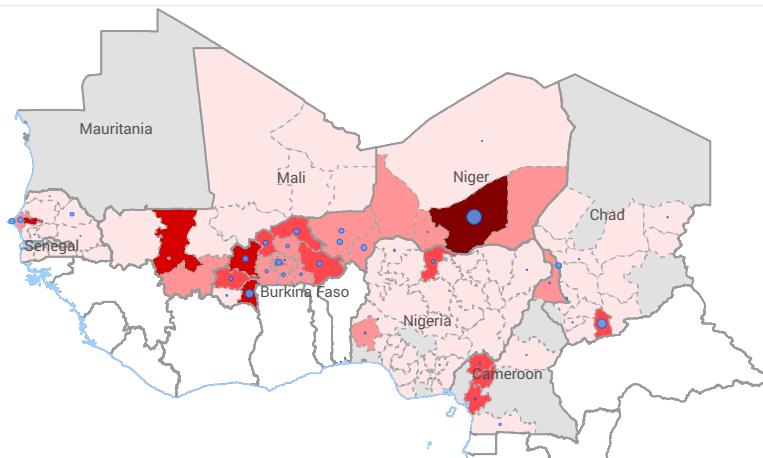
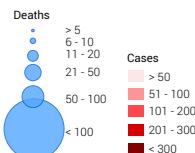
The COVID-19 pandemic has had immediate health consequences, including loss of human life and psychological shock associated with infection, in addition to having a significant social impact on households. More than two years after the first cases of COVID-19 sparked an unprecedented pandemic, the situation in the Sahel remains a matter of concern. As of 13 June 2022, 590,198 confirmed cases of COVID-19 were recorded across the region, with 9,671 deaths registered. Moreover, most of the restrictive measures taken to contain the pandemic, which have largely been eased, continue to have a negative impact on the socioeconomic situation of the countries in the region.

While COVID-19 is having a marked impact on cities and towns, rural populations are disproportionately affected, with economic disruptions jeopardizing their capacity to meet their basic needs, such as food and shelter. A more comprehensive and effective response should be implemented, including strengthening access to immunization.

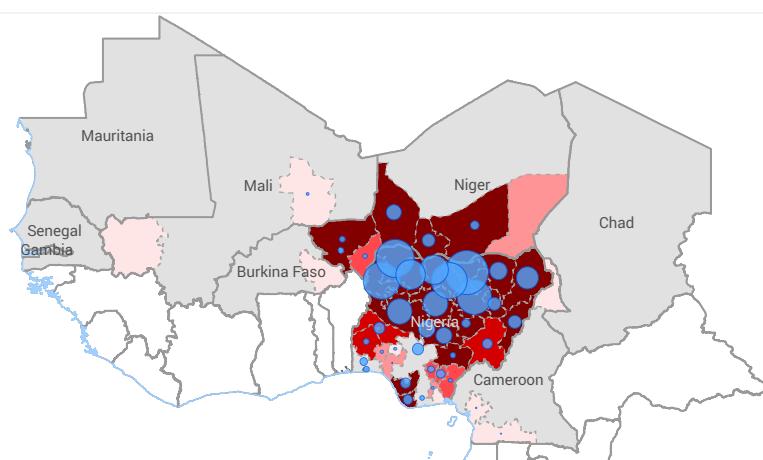
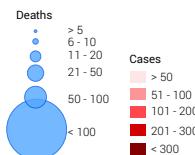
The pandemic continues to be a reality in the region. However, measures taken by States and regional institutions and the vaccination campaign point to a favorable outlook. The relative improvement in the health situation has led to the gradual lifting of restrictions imposed at the onset of the crisis in 2020, even as successive waves and new variants raise fears that some of those measures could be reintroduced

Notified cases and deaths of major epidemics in 2021

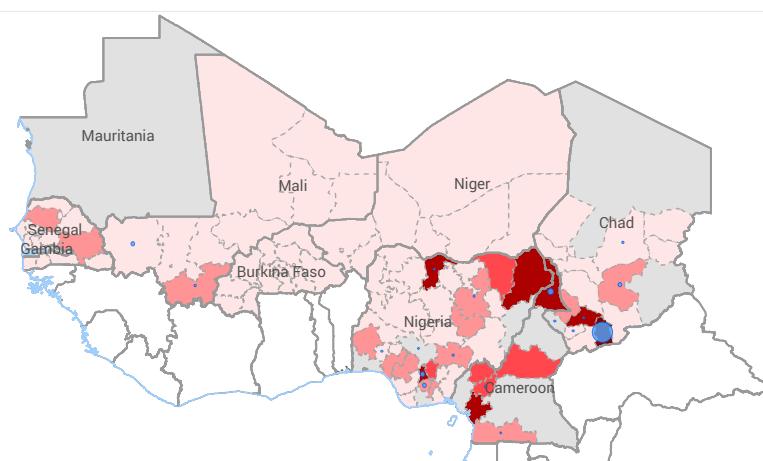
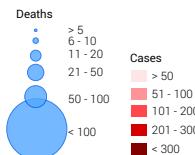
Meningitis



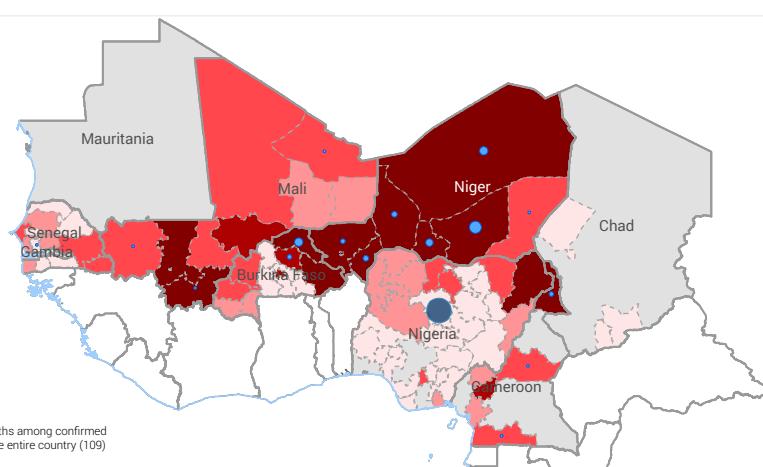
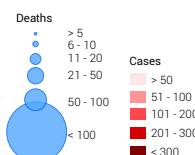
Cholera



Yellow fever



Measles



Source: Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDS) for countries, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)

Increasing access constraints



The increased blurry lines

between humanitarian and military actors pose significant risks to humanitarian access in the region

2021 saw an increase in access constraints across the Sahel. Conflict, direct threats to aid workers, political instability, administrative barriers, and the COVID-19 pandemic all had a negative impact on humanitarian access in the region. The 2021 rainy season also hampered humanitarian access to certain conflict-affected regions, with large sections of roads inaccessible due to flooding and erosion.

The increased blurry lines between humanitarian and military actors pose significant risks to humanitarian access in the region. The use of armed escorts for international organizations in parts of the Sahel and Lake Chad Basin in 2021 led to the partial suspension of critical humanitarian projects, hampering civilians' access to aid and responders' security. In addition, non-state armed groups (NSAGs) have threatened and targeted civilians who are suspected of having cooperated with military and police forces. The support provided by armed forces to civilians in some areas has also blurred

the understanding of the distinction between military and humanitarian actors. This has an impact on the perception and acceptance of humanitarian actors by the civilian population and non-state armed groups.

Enhanced civil-military coordination remains imperative to establish structured relations between civil and military authorities and humanitarian actors and to guarantee humanitarian principles are respected. Structured dialogue is needed between States and their partners engaged in humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding work to define cooperation, make clear distinctions, establish red lines where needed and ensure respect for international humanitarian law and humanitarian operational independence.

Counter-terrorism legislation also had an impact on the capacity of humanitarians to negotiate humanitarian access with certain actors, in violation of international humanitarian principles. The interpretation and application of these norms translated into both a chilling effect and concrete obstacles, further restricting access to people in need. In some countries, this legislation has also prohibited cash transfers and other forms of humanitarian assistance, thereby impeding assistance to the most vulnerable populations.

Administrative barriers continue to threaten access to people in need in several countries. Some aid operations have been forced to focus on certain areas of intervention and recipients of aid, violating humanitarian principles. Denial of existing, and documented humanitarian needs were also observed in areas across these regions

Access is particularly difficult for rural populations, primarily women and girls. The absence or limited participation of women and girls in needs assessments and community engagement activities, in contexts of high insecurity, as both assessors and participants, reduces the capacity of humanitarians to integrate women's and girls' specific needs. NSAGs and local governments

have also placed restrictions on some organizations' mixed-gender operations and programmes, such as education, gender-based violence, and reproductive health.

In 2021, humanitarian partners developed a regional access and CMCoord roadmap to prioritize key collective actions for improved access and humanitarian outcomes in the region.



Needs outpacing funding levels



Aid organizations are working across the region to respond to the most urgent needs of those affected. Thanks to generous contributions from donors, the UN and humanitarian partners scaled up their response and provided life-saving assistance to more than 15.7 million people in 2021 - reaching areas that were previously hard to access. 10 million people received food and livelihoods assistance, 1.3 million children suffering from severe acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment, and 3 million children benefited from emergency education.

The scaling up of the response, however, is hampered by lack of funding and resources. In 2021, only 52 per cent of the required funds were received, the lowest percentage since 2016. This represented a US\$ 182 million shortfall compared to 2020. The impact of

these figures on the ground is reflected in many projects that could not be implemented and a considerable number of people affected by the crisis that could not be reached. As the Sahel crisis continues unabated in 2022, the humanitarian community calls for a renewed engagement by all contributors to ensure that no one is left behind.

Humanitarian organizations are gearing up resource mobilization efforts. Requests for CERF grants in Burkina Faso and Mali are part of these efforts. A regionally hosted pooled fund to support humanitarian operations in Central and West Africa has been launched, with a first envelope of US\$12.5 million going to Niger and funding 22 projects, and a second envelope of US\$20 million going to Burkina Faso.

It is urgent to prioritize humanitarian action. Strategic priorities include the protection of civilians, access to food, water, sanitation, health, and education. Without sufficient resources, the crisis will further escalate, eroding communities' resilience and putting millions of children, women, and men at risk.

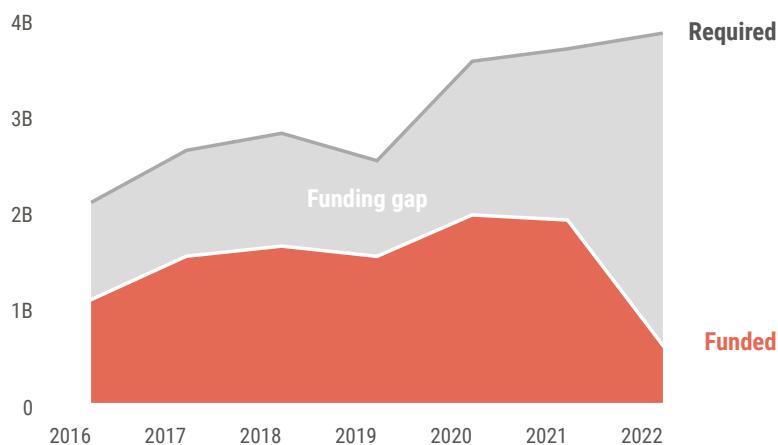
2022 Sahel Humanitarian Response Plans (HRP) Funding

(in millions USD)

	REQUIRED	FUNDED	UNMET	
Burkina Faso	590.8	90.9	499.9	15%
Cameroon	376.0	50.7	325.2	14%
Chad	510.9	81.1	429.7	16%
Mali	685.7	75.9	609.7	11%
Niger	552.5	80.4	472.1	15%
Nigeria	1,127	219.1	908.0	19%

2016-2022 Sahel HRP Funding

(in millions USD)



Source: Financial Tracking Service (FTS) as of 16 June 2022

Only
52%
of the required funds were
received in 2021



A first envelope of
12.5M



to support Niger across 22 projects
from the Regional Humanitarian Fund
for West and Central Africa (RHFCA)

More than
15.7M

people received
life-saving assistance
in 2021

**Longer-term interventions
focused on reducing need**



Host governments
and local communities are first responders
- they need support.

In the Sahel, where long-standing and new crises coexist, different actors must share the same operational space, seeking complementary and amplified results. Life-saving aid needs to be accompanied by longer-term interventions focused on reducing needs.

Investment is needed to address economic and gender inequalities, lack of access to basic services, human rights violations and non-inclusive governance, the scarcity of resources and the climate emergency, and the worrying rise in hunger. Multi-dimensional solutions are required. Host governments and local communities are first responders – they need support. Only coordinated action and strong partnership among local communities, national governments, humanitarian and development actors and international partners and sustained investments in social services can turn the crisis around.

To unlock the potential of the Sahel region, humanitarian and development efforts must be complementary, based on principles of do-no-harm and community acceptance. Coordination among pillars is critical for developing the comprehensive response required in the Sahel today. There must be a clear distinction between humanitarian and security objectives and between humanitarian, development, and stabilization funding.

Towards a more meaningful role for affected populations in the response



More actions are needed

to ensure a meaningful participation of
the affected populations in the response

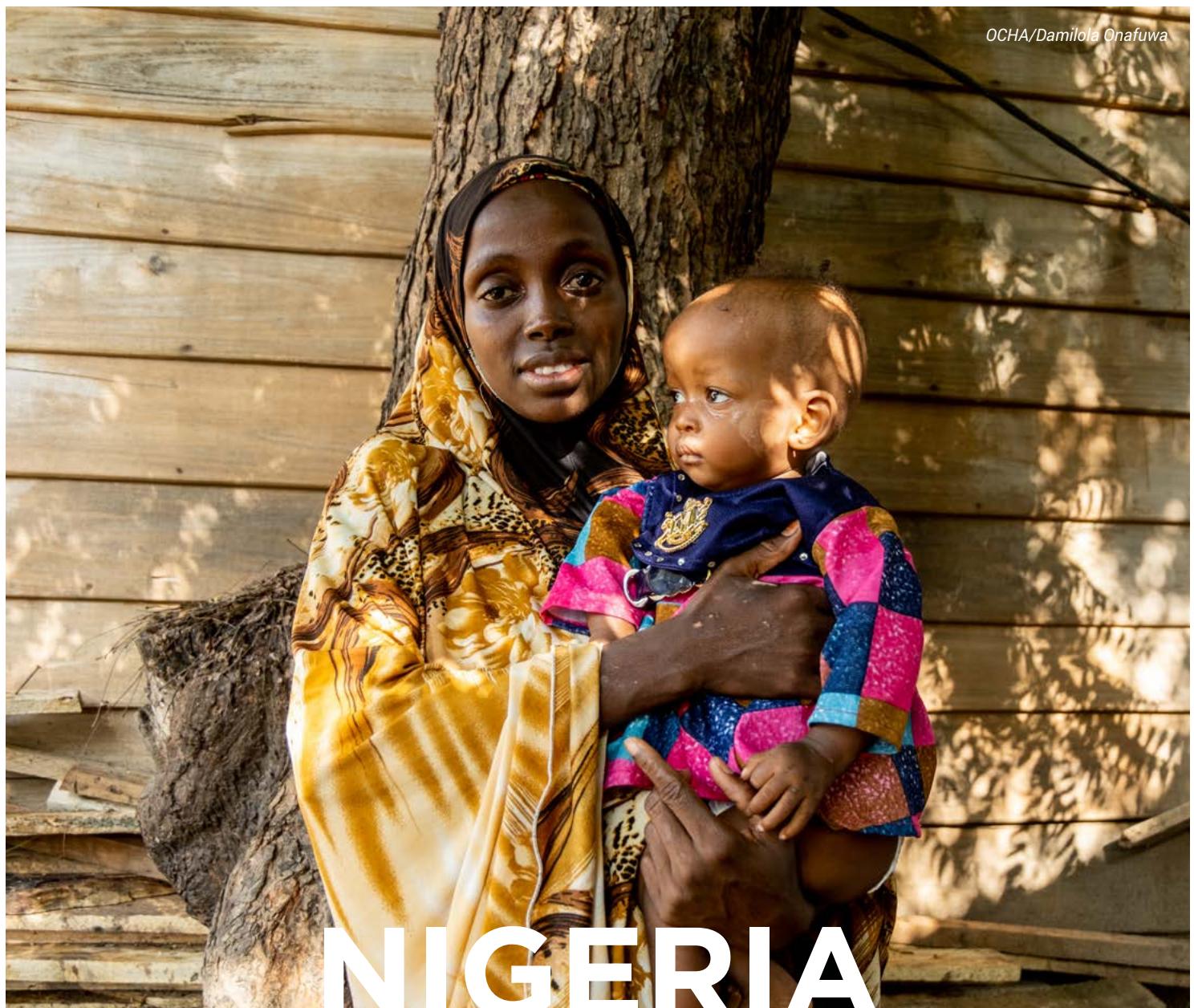
Accountability to affected populations (AAP) is one of the core components of the humanitarian response. Numerous efforts have been made in the Sahel to ensure that affected populations are included in the response process. Accountability and community engagement coordination mechanisms have been established in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Chad, Cameroon, CAR, and Nigeria to ensure that populations are appropriately consulted throughout the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC), with the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

However, more actions are needed to ensure a meaningful participation of the affected populations in the response. A study by SIPRI in the Liptako-Gourma region indicates that accountability systems are very weak. People surveyed indicate that they are not consulted, and there are widespread rumors regarding humanitarian assistance (discrimination, extortion, favoritism, embezzlement).

To fill these gaps, humanitarian actors are working intensively through accountability and inclusion coordination mechanisms in Mali, Chad, Niger, Cameroon, and Burkina Faso.

Additionally, efforts have been made to harmonize and aggregate community feedback by ensuring that AAP indicators are included in the HPC. Common messages for affected communities regarding the humanitarian response are being elaborated. Humanitarian response design and quality improvements are being made based on community feedback; Complaints Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) are being established; while ensuring referral pathways are established and used by clusters.

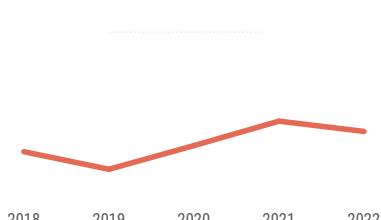
Given the region's efforts and challenges, donors must support humanitarian organizations in addressing AAP funding gaps to ensure a more effective response.



NIGERIA

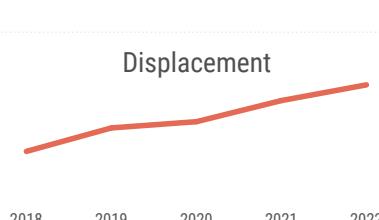
People in need

8.3M



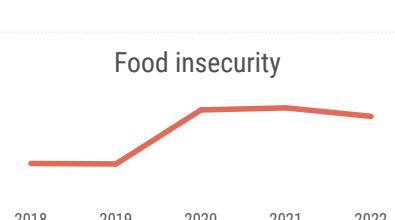
People targeted

5.5M



HRP Requirement (\$US)

1.1B



The humanitarian crisis in Nigeria's north-eastern states of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe remains one of the largest crises in the world and is expected to persist unabated. 2022 marks the thirteenth year of conflict. Protracted insecurity and violence

compounded by climate change and the impact of COVID-19 are further increasing vulnerability, putting 8.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. About two million people are internally displaced, living in camps or in host communities.

Despite relentless efforts, the gap in financing has persisted

The combination of escalating conflict, attacks, insecurity, and disruption to and loss of livelihoods due to displacement is exacerbating food insecurity and causing protection crises. Up to 4.1 million people in the north-east are expected to be food-insecure in 2022.

At the same time, malnutrition is on the rise. Approximately two million children under five and pregnant and lactating women will require preventative nutrition services in 2022, in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states.

The conflict and the weak rule of law institutions create an environment conducive for gender-based violence. Survivors often face immense challenges in accessing affordable quality services. In 2021, a system for monitoring and reporting grave violations against children by parties to the conflict was established by the United in the Lake Chad Basin region, covering parts of Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria.

The operating environment for humanitarian partners has become increasingly challenging. Attacks against humanitarians and civilians are pervasive, putting civilians and aid workers at risk. Many key logistical routes across the north-east are insecure, impeding transport of personnel and humanitarian supplies critical for the operation.

In 2021, combined humanitarian and government efforts helped reach close to 5 million people with urgent assistance, including 1.8 million people receiving critical protection services and 1.3 million benefiting from nutritional support, despite funding shortfalls, security challenges and movement restrictions.

Malnutrition was averted for over 1.1 million children through their provision with fortified nutritious foods to address or prevent malnutrition. About 1.8 million people were reached with protection services, including sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response, enhanced mine awareness, and support in addressing housing land and property concerns.

Despite relentless efforts, the gap in financing has persisted. In 2021, about 72 per cent of the total funds required for the humanitarian response were received.

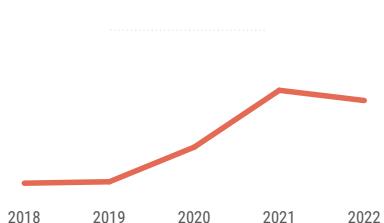
Humanitarian presence needs to be brought to scale to cope with the increasing needs and avoid further deterioration of the crisis, putting even more people in need of assistance.

The humanitarian community is calling for US\$1.1 billion to enable partners to provide critical services to the 5.5 million most vulnerable people - amongst a total of 8.4 million people in need of some form of humanitarian assistance in 2022.

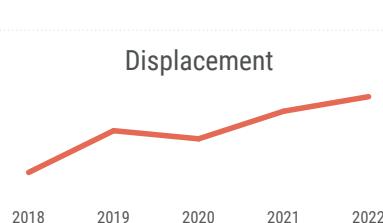
Although Nigeria's north-central and north-western zones are not included in the country's Humanitarian Response Plan, both regions are afflicted by a multi-faceted crisis rooted in long-standing tensions between ethnic and religious groups and characterized by criminal attacks and banditry. The crisis has accelerated in recent years as attacks have increased in intensity, resulting in widespread displacement throughout the region.



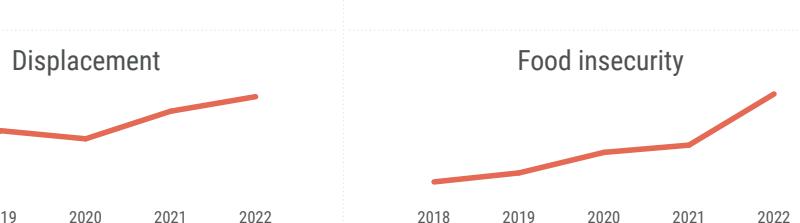
People in need

3.6M

People targeted

2.3M

HRP Requirement (\$US)

552M

Niger is facing a complex humanitarian emergency exacerbated by insecurity and violence against civilians perpetrated by non-state armed groups, poverty, and climatic and epidemiological shocks which disrupt the provision of essential social services

to vulnerable people. In 2022, 3.7 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection, representing approximately 16.8 percent of Niger's population. The nutrition situation is critical, with a national prevalence of chronic malnutrition of 43.5 percent, above

Most displaced people have been forced to flee multiple times

the 30 per cent threshold, and a national prevalence of global acute malnutrition of 12.7 per cent, above the 10 percent threshold. The country has been experiencing one of the most severe food crises in the last 20 years.

Armed conflicts in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Nigeria result in instability and forced displacements in border areas, and violence is spilling over into Niger's cross-border regions. In the Diffa, Tillabéry, Maradi, and Tahoua regions. Spikes of violence create newly forced displacements and humanitarian needs. Persisting insecurity forced some 575,000 people to seek refuge from violence in 2021, including approximately 289,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), 250,000 refugees, mainly Nigerians, and about 57,000 from Mali and Burkina Faso, as of 30 April 2022. Most displaced people have been forced to flee multiple times and cannot return home due to insecurity. In 2021, a system for the monitoring and reporting of grave violations against children by parties to the conflict was established by the United Nations in the Lake Chad Basin region, covering parts of Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria.

Increasingly severe weather and intensifying climate shocks are exacerbating chronic vulnerabilities. In 2021, exceptional floods severely impacted Niger. More than 250,000 people were affected by torrential rainfall and floods that destroyed their homes. Around 3.3 million people are experiencing acute and chronic food insecurity due to recurring shocks and climate change, and this number is expected to rise significantly during the upcoming lean season, reaching 4.4 million people. Additionally, over 491,822 children suffer from severe malnutrition. Eight hundred twenty-one (821) schools and education centres were non-functional in 2022 due to insecurity as of 30 April 2022, affecting more than 78,000 children in Diffa, Maradi, Tahoua, and Tillabéri regions.

Insecurity and attacks severely disrupt essential social services and jeopardize national development efforts. Attacks directly targeted health infrastructures. As of 30 April 2022, 79 health centres had to close due to insecurity, including 42 centres in the Diffa region and 37 in Tillabéri. The number of reported violations is also increasing. The protection cluster reported that from January to March 2022, 774 cases of protection incidents were recorded against 1,389 in the same period in 2021.

Insecurity remains marked by attacks against civilians, inter-and intra-community tensions, and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) incidents. Getting humanitarian aid to vulnerable people remains a challenge. Because of insecurity, humanitarian organizations in Niger have faced increased access constraints, affecting their ability to respond to affected people's needs, particularly in Tahoua, Tillabéry, and Diffa.

Despite ongoing risks and uncertainty, the humanitarian community is committed to staying and delivering emergency assistance such as clean drinking water, food, and essential healthcare services to the most vulnerable people. About 148 humanitarian organizations provide multisectoral emergency assistance nationwide, including hard-to-reach areas. Access to populations affected by crises and conflicts in hard-to-reach areas should be unconditional and assistance should be timely and should respect humanitarian and protection principles.

The humanitarian community is calling for the mobilization of US\$552.6 million to cover the acute needs of the most vulnerable people in 2022. In 2021, approximately 1.8 million people received humanitarian assistance in Niger.

Structural vulnerabilities in Niger are unlikely to improve significantly. People will remain vulnerable to climate shocks such as droughts, floods, malnutrition, food insecurity, and disease outbreaks. Resilience programming, including further investment in prevention and capacity-building, is critical to reducing the vulnerability of people and communities and better responding to the root causes of these crises.



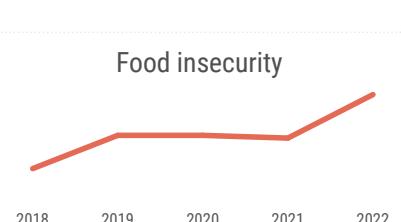
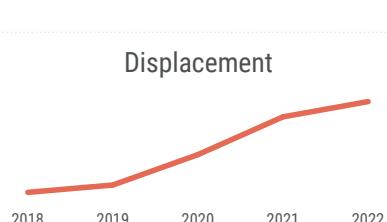
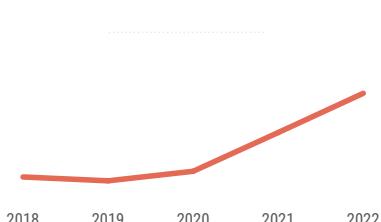
People in need

7.5M

People targeted

5.2M

HRP Requirement (\$US)

685M

Throughout 2021, the humanitarian crisis in Mali has worsened with the expansion of violence and insecurity throughout the north and the centre, and towards the south of the country. Chronic poverty, socio-political crises, conflicts, multi-faceted insecurity,

and climatic hazards, including floods and droughts, coupled with the socioeconomic consequences of COVID-19, exacerbated vulnerable people's needs. The combination of these hazards threatens lives, exacerbates pre-existing vulnerabilities, weakens the

Civilians are often caught between armed groups and military operations

livelihoods of affected households, and reduces their resilience. In addition, recurrent humanitarian access constraints keep many people away from vital basic social services, sometimes leading them to resort to negative coping or adaptation strategies. For the first time since the beginning of the multidimensional crisis, the November 2021 Cadre Harmonisé predicts that nearly 2 million people; 22 per cent of the population, will be acutely food insecure during the upcoming lean season between June and August 2022.

Civilians are often caught between armed groups and military operations, and many flee their homes to seek safety. Displacement in Mali has been growing in the past years with a significant increase of internally displaced persons. The number of internally displaced people reached a record figure of 401,850 in September 2021, five times more than in September 2018 with 77,046. As a result of this context, the crisis affects nearly 12.9 million people (compared to 11 million in 2021) of whom 7.5 million need humanitarian assistance compared to 5.9 million in 2021.

In 2021, 1,664 schools closed due to insecurity, affecting more than 2.9 million children, 40 per cent of whom are in four districts of the central Mopti region. The recent IPC acute malnutrition analysis in Mali shows that between October 2021 and May 2022, 16 administrative subdivisions will likely be in a serious nutritional situation (IPC Phase 3) and 3 other administrative subdivisions in a critical situation (IPC Phase 4).

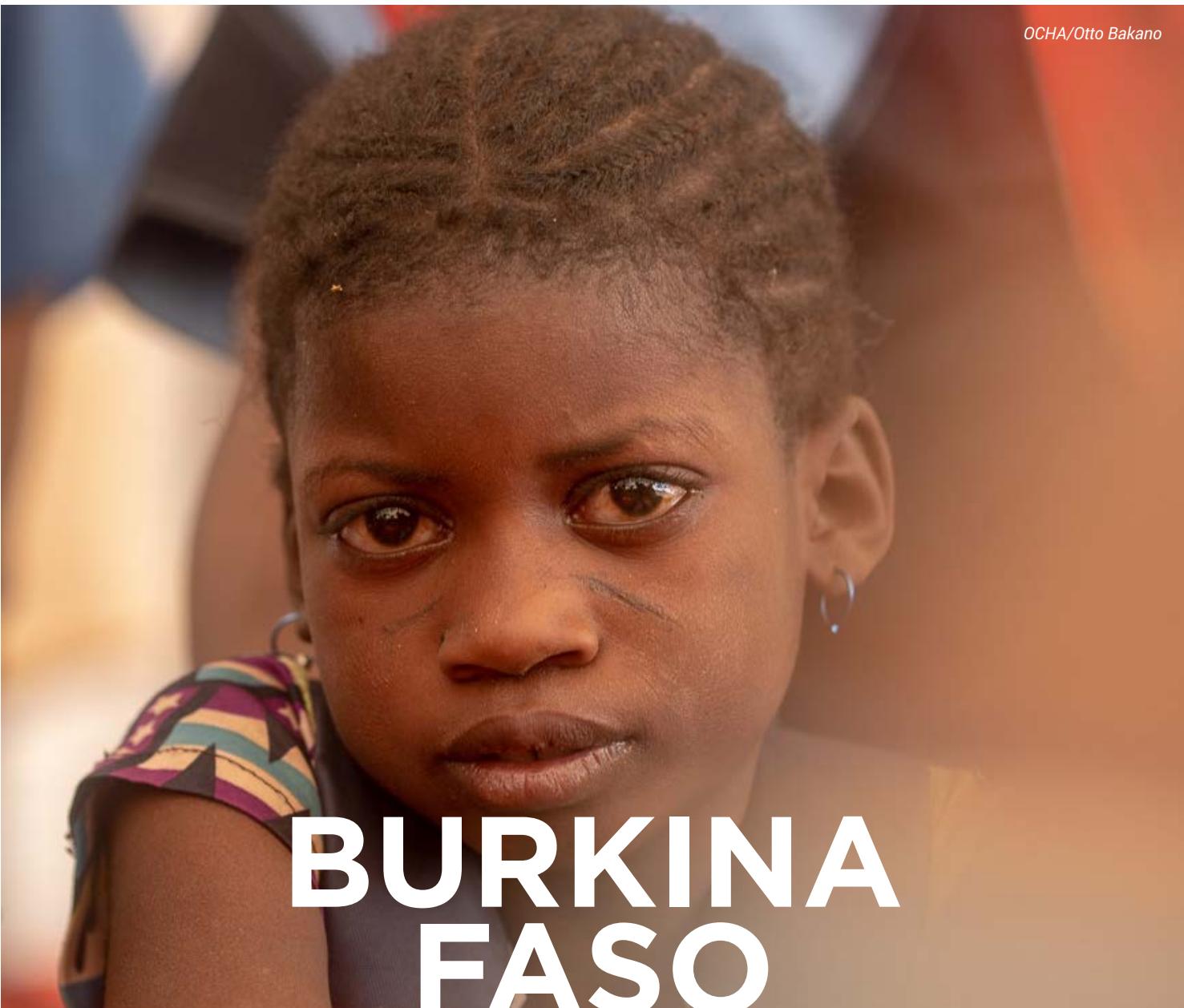
Between June and August 2022, a progressive deterioration in the nutritional situation is expected, with 37 administrative subdivisions, out of 51 analyzed, in a serious condition and five administrative subdivisions likely in a critical condition.²⁴

In 2021, 1.3 million people experienced an elevated level of acute food insecurity, the highest level since 2015, and 3 million people were affected by the poor rains and an extended lean season. Humanitarian access constraints remain high. Hostilities amongst armed actors, restriction of movement for the humanitarian actors, and improvised explosive devices hinder humanitarian workers' access to communities.

In 2021, joint efforts by the Government and humanitarian partners made it possible to assist over 2.9 million people, despite funding shortfalls and access constraints. Only 39 per cent of the funds sought for the humanitarian response were received in 2021. Immediate and generous funding is necessary to cope with needs and have a tangible impact on people's lives. UN agencies, Funds and Programmes and NGOs are on the ground, providing food aid, therapeutic nutrition, emergency shelter and access to health care, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, and protection - and with better funding, much more can be achieved.

In 2022, 12.9 million people are affected by the crisis, of whom 7.5 million need humanitarian assistance. 67 per cent are children. Humanitarian organizations are targeting 5.3 million people and are calling for the mobilization of US\$ 686 million. Almost one in five people need assistance in 2022. If these needs are not addressed, the crisis will increasingly affect the most vulnerable and particularly exacerbate the risks of malnutrition and exploitation.

²⁴ <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1155466/?iso3=MLI>



BURKINA FASO

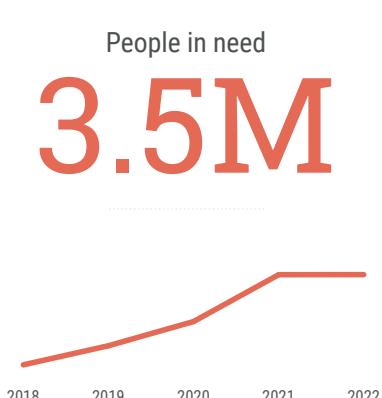
People in need

3.5M

People targeted

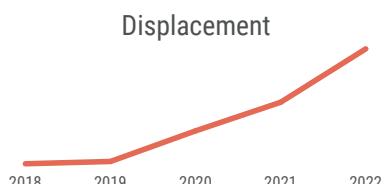
3.0M

HRP Requirement (\$US)

590M


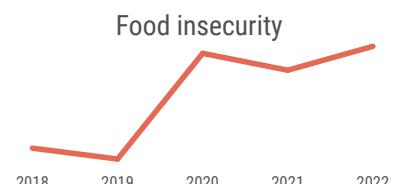
Year	People in need (M)
2018	2.5
2019	2.7
2020	2.9
2021	3.1
2022	3.5

Burkina Faso is facing a complex and unprecedented humanitarian crisis, with a continuous, rapid increase in need in 2021. Almost daily violence is widespread in 77 per cent of the country (10 of 13 regions), primarily affecting civilians, and especially women and children. Over the past year, 40



per cent of Burkinabè have been directly affected by violence and insecurity, and more than 9 per cent of the population has been internally displaced (1.85 million people).

Insecurity has reduced people's access to basic social services, with about 40 per cent of the population directly affected by the



Year	Food insecurity (M)
2018	1.5
2019	1.5
2020	2.0
2021	1.8
2022	2.0

Insecurity has reduced access to basic social services

closure or reduction of basic social services and the absence of state services. As of late April 2022, 539 health facilities were affected by insecurity in eight regions, of which 185 are completely closed, depriving over 2.1 million people from accessing health care services. In 2021, given the increasing number of graves violations against children by parties to the conflict, the situation in Burkina Faso was considered of concern according to the United Nations Secretary-General's annual report on children and armed conflict. The situation remains particularly critical in the Sahel region, where 57 per cent of health facilities are closed.

In 2022, Burkina Faso is seeing an increase in food insecurity well above and beyond the parameters established in the HRP 2022 (November 2021), due primarily to the impact of conflict as a driver of displacement and constraint on affected communities' productive activities as well as erratic rainfall in the 2021 rainy season. The market price of staple foods is rising (up 40 to 60% in the most affected areas by April 2022), driven by conflict-related production shortfalls and asset loss, as well as access challenges to market resupply. The conflict in Ukraine is compounding the situation due to impacts on international markets and supply chain, reflected in the 20% increase to the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) prepared by the Cash Working Group in April 2022.

The results of the 2021 national nutrition survey have shown a worsening in the nutrition situation with a prevalence of global wasting that increased from 8.1 per cent in 2019 to 9.1 per cent in 2020 (of which 1 per cent severe wasting). The prevalence of global wasting varies from 5.5 per cent in the Cascades Region to 15.1 per cent in the Sahel Region, which exceeds the critical threshold. In 2022, 239,621 children under five will need treatment for moderate wasting and 89,648 children under five will be in need of treatment for severe wasting. Humanitarian aid remains the main source of income for more than 38 per cent of displaced people. Nevertheless, the intensification of violence and access difficulties hamper the provision

of assistance and the access to affected people.

Insecurity and violence continue to affect education in all regions. As of April 2022, 4,148 schools were dysfunctional, depriving about 685,000 children of education.

Nine regions are affected by the closure of education facilities, with the Sahel region the most affected with 972 schools closed. This has an enormous impact on children's futures, particularly for girls, who are often unlikely to return to school, get pregnant or marry before the age of 18.

The January 2022 coup d'état reinforces uncertainties, including operational and protection issues, for the humanitarian community and the population.

While Burkina Faso is facing the worst humanitarian crisis in its history, it is important to recognize the solidarity and commitment of the Burkinabe population and humanitarian actors towards their fellow citizens. Despite the many challenges, the humanitarian community has expanded access to assistance in Burkina Faso. Thanks to generous donor contributions and concerted efforts, humanitarian aid reached more than 2.5 million people in 2021 – 87 per cent of those targeted by the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan, with only 49 per cent of the required financial resources – through the provision of food aid, therapeutic nutrition, emergency shelter and access to health care, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, and protection, particularly in difficult to access areas. But the impact of conflict continues to accrue, and additional resources are needed. Response capacities need to be strengthened to meet the vital needs of crisis-affected people and to cope with the volatile context.

In 2022, among the 3.5 million people in need of assistance, the humanitarian community has targeted 3 million of the most vulnerable people and is calling for the mobilization of US\$590.9 million to maintain and increase emergency response.

Aid that saves lives must also be accompanied by development action to reduce future needs. That means investing in basic social services, first and foremost in northern and eastern Burkina Faso. It also means improving infrastructure and education, combating the impact of climate shocks and climate change, and supporting sustainable livelihood models for future generations.



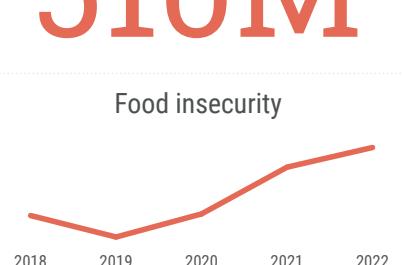
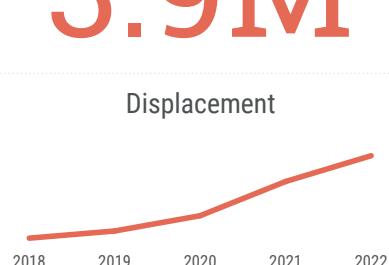
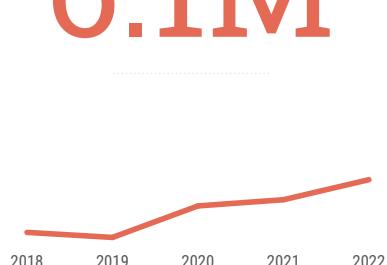
People in need

6.1M

People targeted

3.9M

HRP Requirement (\$US)

510M

In Chad, multiple crises continue to compound the vulnerability of people. About 6.1 million people will require humanitarian assistance in 2022. The already fragile socioeconomic context is strongly affected by increasing conflicts and violence, recurrent

health risks, food insecurity, and climate change.

The rise of violence inside Chad's borders but also shocks felt in its cross-border areas due to the fragile political and security context of neighbouring countries are affecting the

Chad is exposed to climate shocks that are intensifying across the country

lives of many. Population movements are increasing and over one million people are displaced, including IDPs, refugees, asylum seekers, and returnees.

In the western Lac province, the vulnerability of host populations is deepening, as livelihoods are increasingly affected by challenges to access the lake for fishing or to plant and harvest. The increase in security incidents linked to armed conflicts in the Lac region is affecting IDPs and the host community. In 2021, 1,196 protection incidents have been reported in the province and 1,346 cases of violence based on gender, including 10 per cent of sexual violence, notified between January and September 2021. Most security incidents are killings (29 per cent) and kidnappings (22 per cent), and most incidents are accompanied by theft and pillage of cattle and infrastructure. In 2021, a system for monitoring and reporting grave violations against children by parties to the conflict was established by the United in the Lake Chad Basin region including parts of Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria.

Chad is exposed to climate shocks that are intensifying across the country resulting in rising sea levels, extreme weather events, heavy rains and floods and droughts, winter cycle variations, fires, etc., leading to disruptions in the conditions of human life. In 2021, over 256,000 people across the country – especially the west, south, and northeast – were affected by extensive floods, losing totally or partially houses and belongings, with considerable impact on food stocks and harvests and loss of animals. Despite efforts, funding challenges prevented humanitarian actors to deliver a sufficient response.

Moreover, across the country, 2.1 million people are expected to suffer from food insecurity during the next lean season from June to September 2022, a rise from the current 1.3million people.

This situation is the result of the decline in agricultural production, including cereal production, the drying up of surface water in the Sahelian zone, and the low availability of water affecting grazing. The increase in prices also affects food consumption, nutritional status, and livelihoods trends. Malnutrition remains a concern in Chad, with a prevalence of 10.9 per cent of global acute malnutrition and 2 per cent of severe acute malnutrition. This situation is concerning in 17 of the 23 provinces.

In several eastern and southern provinces, clashes between farmers and herders continue, with 24 separate incidents between January and July 2021, a rise from eight incidents in 2020. The incidents resulted in the deaths of at least 309 people (a rise from 70 deaths last year), the injury of 182, and the displacement of 6,500. Clashes are triggered by livestock causing damage to agricultural crops and disputes over water sources.

The country is also suffering from recurrent epidemics such as measles, malaria, Meningitis, yellow fever, and cholera. Poor access to drinking water, hygiene and sanitation, and the weakness of the health system constitute major obstacles in terms of supply and accessibility to primary health care, putting the lives of nearly 1.7 million people on the line. This year, two new diseases have been added to health emergencies: hepatitis E and Leishmaniasis.

Funding for humanitarian response plans did not follow the evolution of the humanitarian context. The number of people in need has risen steadily over the past five years, ranging from 4.7 million people in 2017 to 6.1 million in 2022. In 2021, only 32 per cent of the required funding for the humanitarian response was received, making it impossible to respond to the vulnerabilities of all the people targeted by the response. In 2022, to meet the needs of people affected by crises in Chad, the Humanitarian Response Plan targets 3.9 million people in need of emergency humanitarian assistance for required funding of US\$510.9 million.



OCHA/Ariane Maixandea

CAMEROON (FAR NORTH)

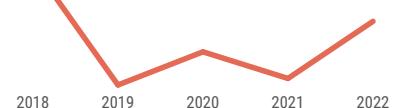
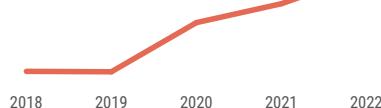
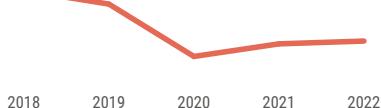
People in need

1.2M

People targeted

763k

HRP Requirement (\$US)

376M

Cameroon continues to face a highly challenging humanitarian context, characterized by multiple crises that severely stretch the response capacity of authorities and humanitarian partners.

The Far North region suffers from a complex emergency triggered by the long-standing violence in the Lake Chad Basin. Over 1.2 million people are estimated to need humanitarian assistance in the Far North in 2022, a rise from 1 million in 2020. With 285

Beyond the Far North, Cameroon faces two other humanitarian crises

graves violations against children by parties to the conflict, the situation in Cameroon is of concern according to the 2021 United Nations Secretary-General's annual report on children and armed conflict.

The number of displaced people continues to increase. Violence in the Far North region has led to a steady rise of displacement since 2014, in a region that is experiencing recurrent droughts, floods, and epidemics. As of November 2021, violence has uprooted 610,000 people, a rise from 320,000 people displaced the year before. Displacement often happens in anticipation of attacks, with families only carrying minimum goods with them and searching for temporary safe areas. As a result, displaced people tend to settle in makeshift shelters, finding themselves in a very precarious situation. The number of IDPs rose from 60,000 in December 2014 to almost 360,000 in July 2021.

Attacks by non-state armed groups continue to lead to injuries and deaths, in addition to community clashes in the Logone et Chari division. Attacks and community conflicts also negatively affect the livelihoods of the populations, thus reducing their capacity to cover their health expenses, in a region that records the highest morbidity rates linked to diseases and climatic hazards in the country. In 2021, the rate of births attended by skilled personnel has remained very low in the Far North region (less than 30 per cent) thus increasing the rate of maternal and neonatal deaths. In addition, the number of injured people seeking surgical care has increased.

Civilians are deeply vulnerable to rights abuses and violations. In 2021, the level of gender-based violence is exacerbated by forced displacement of the population and a lack of adequate life-saving gender-based violence (GBV) services, putting women and

girls at heightened risks.

The majority of GBV incidents recorded in 2021 were related to the denial of resources, opportunities or services, and physical violence, with most cases perpetrated by intimate partners. Attacks to IDP hosting sites are frequent and community safety nets are weakening.

In areas affected by violence and insecurity, access to basic social services such as health and education is constrained. The region is also prone to climate shocks, both floods and prolonged dry periods, that undermine community resilience. The volatile context is also strongly affecting people's capacity to feed themselves.

Conflict over natural resources in the Far North has intensified in 2021 and is likely to continue in 2022. The Far North region experienced exceptional flooding in 2020 and drought in 2021, severely reducing crop yields and triggering acute food shortages. The effects of natural disasters, compounded by armed conflict and the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19, have led to a significant increase in projected food insecurity from 2021 to 2022. Over 941,540 people are estimated to be food insecure from June to August 2022, compared to 380,145 people for the same period in 2021.

Beyond the Far North, Cameroon faces two other humanitarian crises. The situation in the North-West and South-West regions continues to deteriorate. Thousands of families continue to flee their homes in search of safety. In Cameroon's eastern regions, an increase in the influx of Central African refugees has been observed. Overall, 325,000 refugees are putting significant pressure on the already limited resources and basic social services in the host areas. In 2022 some 3.9 million people need life-saving assistance in Cameroon.



What if...

we fail to respond?

If humanitarians are unable to raise funds and deliver aid for the Sahel crisis...

1.

30 million persons risk being cut off from life-saving support and face increasing vulnerabilities; half of them are women and girls who face increased risks of gender-based violence.



2.

More than 6.2 million displaced people will struggle to survive. Inadequate shelter and crowded living conditions will expose families to multiple risks.



3.

The status of almost 18.6 million people struggling with severe food security will further deteriorate without assistance. The number of people facing severe food insecurity will increase.



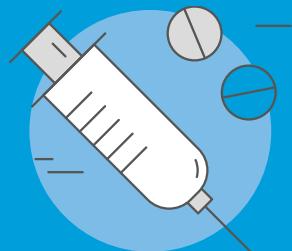
4.

More than 1.6 million severely malnourished children will not receive treatment. As a result, many could die or sustain permanent mental and physical disabilities.



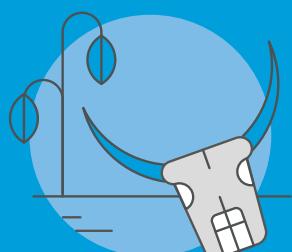
5

Millions of people will lack proper access to water, sanitation, and hygiene. Along with COVID-19, the likelihood of infectious disease outbreaks will increase. Healthcare resources will decline, allowing for the proliferation of diseases such as diarrhea, pneumonia, malaria, measles, and cholera.



6

Millions of people across the Sahel will be left without assistance to sustain their livelihoods, resulting in poor coping mechanisms and heightened tensions over scarce resources.



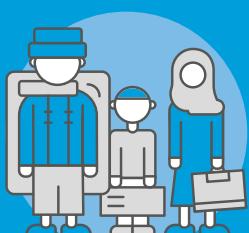
7

Communities impacted by droughts, floods, and other climatic disasters will not be able to cope with shocks and loss of livelihood, exacerbating conflict risks and health emergencies.



8

Millions of people will face increased protection risks because of displacement, mines, violence, and grave violations against children.



9

Communities under stress will adopt more conservative or customary patriarchal practices, disproportionately harming women, and girls.



Sahel Crisis

Humanitarian Needs and Requirements Overview

2022