

Burkina Faso

Consolidated Emergency Report 2018



Girls and boys who were affected by school closures due to deteriorating security participated in the study camps to catch-up on their lessons and prepare for the end of section national exams. Ouahigouya, Burkina Faso.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

BAC	Baccalauréat (Upper-secondary graduation exam)
BEPC	Brevet d'études du premier cycle (Lower secondary graduation exam)
CCC	Core commitment for children
CERF	United Nations Central Emergency Respond Fund
CEP	Certificat d'études primaires (primary graduation exam)
CN-AEJTB	Coordination Nationale des Associations d'Enfants et Jeunes travailleurs du Burkina Faso
CO	Country office
CP	Child Protection
CPWG	Child Protection Working Group
GFF	Global Financial Facility
GBV	Gender-based violence
HAC	Humanitarian Action for Children
HNO	Humanitarian Needs Overview
HPM	Humanitarian performance monitoring
IDP	Internal displaced people
IMAM	Integrated management of acute malnutrition
IYCF	Infant and young child feeding
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
MAM	Moderate acute malnutrition
MoH	Ministry of Health
MUAC	Middle upper arm circumference
PUR	Plan d'urgence et de Resilience
SAM	Severe acute malnutrition
SMART	Standard monitoring and assessment of relief and transition
SMC	Seasonal Malaria chemoprophylaxis
UASC	Unaccompanied and separated children
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene

Executive Summary

During 2018, Burkina Faso faced multiple vulnerabilities such as chronic food and nutrition insecurity and aggravated security crisis in several bordering regions. The rapidly changing emergency landscape has resulted in over 954,000 people in need of humanitarian assistance. Among the numerous crises the country is facing, the insecurity caused by extremist's threats and attacks negatively impacted the provision of basic services to the population (mainly in education and health), and created a growing humanitarian needs such as increased number of internally displaced population (IDP). The rapidly increasing number of attacks by armed groups has pushed the Government to declare the emergency status in 14 provinces in 6 regions of the country¹ at the end of the year.

These violent and recurrent attacks have threatened mostly the security and military forces as well as schools and teachers, also adding more burden to generating limited access to humanitarian actors. This situation caused a massive closure of schools in the affected regions, with 844 primary and secondary school closed as of 21 December 2018 in the Est, Sahel, Centre-Nord and Nord regions, affecting more than 100,000 school children (Ministry of education). Furthermore, due to the general security degradation including those related to extremists' activities, Burkina Faso has registered an unprecedented increase in the number of internal displaced people (IDPs) in 2018. This entailed acute emergency situations requiring multi-sector humanitarian response. The number of IDPs reached 47,000 people at the end of 2018 against 9,000 at the beginning of the year.

The United Nations, under the coordination of UNOCHA, launched the inter-agency resilience and emergency plan with a budget of US\$ 90.1 million in March 2018 to address the growing humanitarian crisis. To respond to the nutrition crisis, 9 million US\$ were mobilized through CERF by the UN agencies in Burkina Faso including UNICEF for four sectors: food security, multisector responses for refugees, nutrition and resilience building. In line with the Inter-agency emergency and resilience plan, UNICEF humanitarian strategy in 2018 included rapid needs assessments, planning, coordination and response mechanisms, working directly with the Government and NGOs both at central and decentralized levels. UNICEF also strived to reduce vulnerabilities of various humanitarian situations through community-based interventions in Education, Nutrition, WASH and Child protection with the aim of building resilience.

In line with the inter-agency Strategic Response Plan 2018, UNICEF requested US\$ 36,147,000 through its revised [Humanitarian Action for Children \(HAC\) appeal 2018](#) to meet the humanitarian needs of children and women in Burkina Faso. Despite the contributions received, the funding gap as of December 2018 remained at 67 per cent (24.3 million) against the HAC appeal 2018. The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector had the largest funding gap of 86 per cent. The nutrition sector received important contributions from different donors, while it was still underfunded against the HAC 2018 appeal, with a large funding gap of 62 per cent.

With the financial contributions from different donors, UNICEF-Burkina Faso and implementing partners reached 627,328 children, including 94,630 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition

¹ Burkina Faso has 13 administrative regions and 45 provinces.

(SAM) and 293,357 school-age children (128,010 girls) in humanitarian situation. During 2018, 94,903 SAM children out of 187,177 (51 per cent) were admitted and assisted according to the Sphere standards² (recovery rate of 91 per cent, death rate of 1.6 per cent and defaulter rate of 7.4 per cent) and 46,829 of them were identified in the four regions in humanitarian situation (East, Sahel, North and Centre North).

Recognizing inter-linkages between malaria and malnutrition, UNICEF Burkina Faso supported, for the first time, the Ministry of Health (MoH) in combining the acute malnutrition screenings with the seasonal malaria chemoprophylaxis campaigns. To implement this new strategy, UNICEF provided technical and financial supports for training of community-based health workers and health personnel and for the supervision of active malnutrition screening. Through collective supports from UNICEF and partners, 3,170,116 children 6-59 months old participated during the three rounds of Seasonal Malaria Chemoprophylaxis (SMC) campaigns (August-October 2018), out of which 29,356 children were identified for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 6,019 SAM children were referred to health facilities for treatment.

UNICEF also continued to support the integration of MUAC (Middle upper arm circumference) screening by mothers in community activities of mother-pairs support groups. A total of 10,720 children in 3 districts of the Nord region were screened by their mothers through MUAC. Of those, 208 MAM cases et 7 SAM cases were identified and referred to health centre for treatment. UNICEF expanded the infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling services to six regions this year and reached 234,703 pregnant and lactating mothers with children under 24 months. These sessions were organized within 9,938 mother-pairs support groups supervised by 3,990 trained community-based health workers in 1,662 villages. The low SAM achievement (94,630 reached out of 187,177 children targeted) is partially due to over-estimated SAM target based on the forecasted nutrition crisis in Sahel, but also due to incomplete reporting, weak referral systems and insecurity, which reduced access to health and nutrition services.

UNICEF supported 4,983 children (2,239 girls) affected by school closures due to insecurity through organizing the emergency study camps with the Government and partners. Thanks to this operation, 64.31 per cent of children who participated in the study camps passed end-of-primary cycle examination (CEP - Certificat d'études primaires in French) compared to the national success rate of 64.82 per cent at the same level. The success rate for the lower secondary graduation exam (BEPC - Brevet d'études du premier cycle in French) was 27.25 per cent and 19.31 per cent for upper-secondary graduation exam (BAC – Baccalauréat in French) among the participants of the camps, against the national average of 43.1 per cent and 40.59 per cent respectively.

Within the UNICEF's support to scaling up the National quality child-friendly school initiative, the Safe School strategy was incorporated. Through cascade training of teachers on the strategy with focus on risk analysis and mitigation plans and psycho-social supports, the strategy strengthened the resilience of 1,400 schools in six regions bordering Mali, benefiting 293,357 students (including 128,010 girls). Compared to 78,701 children including 36,728 girls who were supported in 2017 through the Safe school strategy, the number of students reached this year increased by four times thanks to donors' contributions (emergency and non-emergency).

² <https://handbook.spherestandards.org/>

In the child protection area, the program supported 12,657 (6,754 girls) children including 3,621 refugee children (1,769 girls) with psychosocial support and 65 (17 girls) unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) with alternative care (placement to foster families while proceeding with the family tracing and reunification). In addition, in the refugee camps and host communities, 707 adolescents (396 girls) received life skills education on peace building, citizenship and child rights.

UNICEF continued to ensure emergency preparedness according to its procedures and minimum preparedness standards through multi-risk analysis and rating, the specific risks scenario and multi-risks response planning. To enable a rapid and effective response, UNICEF updated and signed the standby agreements with the National Red Cross for multisectoral humanitarian response including child protection, education, and water and sanitation. New standby agreements were also being developed with the partners such as ACF (nutrition and WASH) and DRC (multi-sectoral responses). UNICEF played the leading role within the sectoral partners' groups in Nutrition, Education and WASH to ensure effective coordination including emergency preparedness and response. UNICEF also strengthened its leadership in Child Protection in the Sahel region in collaboration with UNHCR and local partners.

Education. The country office (CO) strengthened the coordination of the education sector by ensuring regular and close communication between the Ministry of Education and the technical-financial partners mainly through support for the management of the sector-specific basket fund. This enabled emergency responses in a timely manner, such as the emergency study camps targeting children who were affected by school closures linked to insecurity.

WASH. UNICEF was fully engaged in coordinating the WASH in emergency sector through permanent communication and meetings with the members of the group. This year, the CO focused on setting up a better information sharing mechanism and strengthening the emergency preparedness of the sector by facilitating the development of the WASH contingency plan, the update of the 4W matrix (who does what, where and when) and the training in WASH in Emergency and the cholera prevention. UNICEF also maintained and updated [the WASH in emergency sector's web portal](#) in real time to share information on the actors and ongoing interventions.

Nutrition. UNICEF successfully lead the advocacy in harmonizing the partners' interventions and facilitated the policy dialogue on nutrition. The further facilitated the monthly Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) sub-group meetings³ to keep partners informed on the trends, the supply distribution and the results of nutrition surveys.

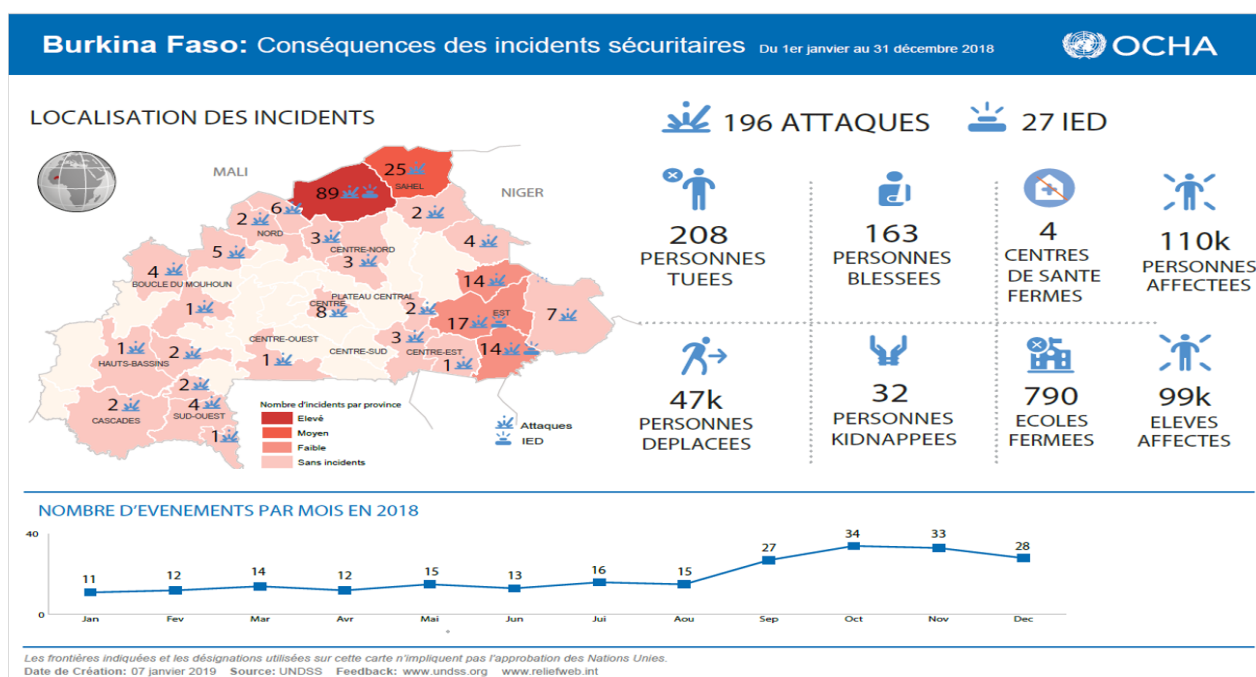
Child protection. Through UNICEF advocacy and financial and technical support, a Child Protection sub-working group in emergency was established within the national Child protection working group (CPWG) chaired by the Government and UNICEF. This group will be operationalized early 2019.

³There are four different sub-groups within the TFP group which are: (1) Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (2) Infant and Young Child Feeding (3) Food Security and other nutrition-sensitive interventions and (4) Advocacy sub-groups

A. Humanitarian Context

The humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso intensified in 2018 due to protracted security threats and attacks from armed groups in the North, East and Sahel regions, continuing food insecurity, nutritional crisis and the measles epidemic outbreaks in 12 regions of the country. This increase in extremists' activities also targeted the security forces and schools in the same regions, including new attacks in Boucle du Mouhoun and Hauts-Bassins regions.

Although often considered an extension of insecurity in Mali, jihadist attacks have become increasingly local in origin and aim to disrupt the social fabric and cohesion (UNICEF Burkina Faso, COAR 2018). The situation remained unpredictable as security risks related to armed groups in the Sahel Region have become more frequent, rapidly expanding to other regions such as the Est and Nord. Various attacks have been carried out in these areas, ranging from targeted killings, assassination attempts, invasions of villages and schools, to complex attacks against army or police posts, leading to multiple negative repercussions. Since January 2018, the number of security incidents almost doubled compared to the same period in 2017. As of 20th December 2018, OCHA reported 193 security incidents that resulted in more than 180 deaths. 59 per cent of incidents were in the Sahel Region. Threats by violent attacks from non-state entities have led to 1,282 primary and secondary school closures as of 22 February 2019, depriving over 169,693 children⁴ of their right to education. Sahel (545 schools closed), East (312) and North (150) remained the most affected regions in terms of the number of schools closed.

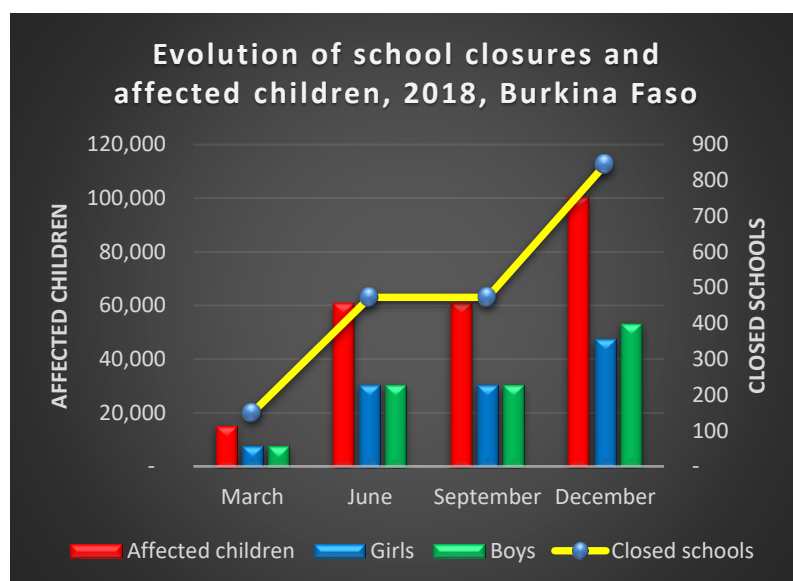


As of November 2018, over 1.5 million people have been affected by the overall insecurity, including nearly 1.1 million children (HNO, OCHA/HAC 2019) and of those, 141,000 people need immediate humanitarian assistance. In addition, the security threats and attacks had caused

⁴Data on school closure communicated by the Ministry of Education as of 22 February 2019

displacement of nearly 47,000 people⁵ (56 per cent were children) as of December 2018, affecting access to health services for 105,000 people, with 14 health centres disturbed or closed in the Sahel region. Burkina Faso is also hosting nearly 25,107 Malian refugees, predominantly in the Sahel region (UNHCR, December 2018). This number has slightly increased compared to the number at mid-year (23,928; UNHCR), likely due to

persisting insecurity in Mali and the border areas. The aggravated insecurity situation and access constraint is impeding the humanitarian community to ensure timely assistance to affected population.



Additionally, the country remained characterized by seasonal and chronic vulnerabilities mainly in the North, East and Sahel regions where the malnutrition rate exceeded the emergency threshold and the nutritional situation of children under 5 remains of concern. The preliminary results of the 2018 National nutrition survey (Ministry of Health, September 2018)⁶ showed a prevalence of Global acute malnutrition (GAM) at 8.4 per cent against 8.6 for 2017, and a prevalence of 1.6 per cent of SAM in 2018 against 2 per cent in 2017. The Sahel and Plateau-central regions recorded the highest acute malnutrition rates (3.1 and 2.8 per cent, respectively).

A measles epidemic hit the country in March 2018 registering 4,072 suspected cases of measles among general population (age-desegregated data not available) from week 01 to week 28 of 2018 in 26 health districts, including 10 deaths.⁷ In 12 out of 13 health regions (92 per cent), at least one district has reached the epidemic threshold of measles (3 confirmed cases in a month). The South-West region was the most affected zone, with 1,786 measles cases among the population. As of July 2018, 559 out of 860 samples were tested positive for IGM/measles, or 65% of prevalence. Among the confirmed cases by laboratory test, children under 5 years represented 71.55%. The epidemic mainly resulted from children not been or fully vaccinated, despite the good administrative coverage rates. Furthermore, due to the prevailing and deteriorating insecurity, 14 health centres in the Sahel region were closed or not fully operational, affecting the access to health services of over 105,000 population (data as of 6 January, OCHA).

⁵ OCHA (December 2018)

⁶ using the SMART method (Standard monitoring and assessment of relief and transition)

⁷ Data are from Ministry of Health, and Comité National de Gestion des Epidémies, meeting minutes, July 18, 2018.

B. Humanitarian Results

In line with the humanitarian needs and in collaboration with UNOCHA, especially for sector coordination, UNICEF focused on supporting nationwide large-scale, high-impact activities emergency response, in line with the Core Commitment for Children (CCC) in humanitarian action and the Inter-agency resilience and emergency plan. UNICEF also strengthened the strategies that aim at increasing resilience in the regions affected by security threats and attacks from armed groups mainly in North, East and Sahel regions. UNICEF's overall responses ensured the complementarity between the humanitarian-development nexuses by focusing on both short-, medium- and long-term needs of population affected by emergency and overall degradation of access to quality basic social services. The CO planned interventions by providing treatment to children under five with SAM, access to formal and non-formal education for affected children, safety at school in emergency areas, psychosocial support to children, creation of child-friendly spaces for refugee and IDP children and those from host communities, access to drinking water and sanitation.

Education emergency response

The insecurity affected education throughout the year resulting in a rapid increase in the number of schools closed (from 92 in January 2018 to 844 schools in December 2018). In the continued crisis linked to security threats to schools, UNICEF as the lead agency of the Education's partners' group, successfully advocated for the reactivation of the Working Group on Education in Emergencies and continued to liaise the Government and partners for coordinating the overall emergency responses. UNICEF's support was pivotal in scaling up the interventions such as the Safe School approach to build resilience, psychosocial supports to teachers, the radio program for distance learning and the Edu-track, an SMS-based platform for monitoring of schools.

Furthermore, due to the closure of 473 schools in the Sahel and North regions between January and June 2018, the Government initiated an emergency operation for the children who were otherwise going to miss the national end-of-cycle examinations such as primary education certificate (CEP - Certificat d'études primaires), lower secondary graduation exam (BEPC - Brevet d'études du premier cycle) and upper-secondary graduation exam (BAC – Baccalauréat), through the establishment of camps (residential settings) in Djibo and Ouahigouya. They provide the students 2.5 months (July-September) of intensive preparation courses followed by examinations.

As the leading agency of the education partners' group, UNICEF provided technical and financial support to this operation which was co-funded by contributions from other partners through the Education's sector-wide basket fund. In addition to the provision of materials (e.g. emergency school kits, installation of tents), UNICEF provided holistic interventions (WASH, protection and health services) to ensure an adequate environment for the students during the study camps. These interventions were implemented through UNICEF's partnership with the civil society organizations such as Danish Refugee Council (DRC), EDUCO and Humanity and Inclusion (Education), and CN AEJTB (Protection). The interventions also included the provision of water and sanitation facilities, Child Friendly Spaces, psychosocial treatment and health care services.

These interventions were delivered in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Security. Support from the local authorities was also key to ensure the security of the sites and surrounding communities for successful implementation of this innovative strategy.

As a result, 4,983 children (2,239 girls) out of 5,528 who received an invitation (90.1 per cent) attended the study camps. Of those, 60.7 per cent lived on site (participants from outside of the city). Thanks to this operation, 64.31 per cent of children who participated in the study camps passed end-of-primary cycle examination (CEP - Certificat d'études primaires in French) compared to the national success rate of 64.82 per cent at the same level (Ministry of Education). For the participants in the Sahel region, the CEP success rate was 65.60 per cent which was 1.43 points above the national average success rate and more than 5.0 points above the average of the region. In the North region, the success rate for CEP among the participants of the study camps was 54.74 per cent, 10.08 and 3.99 percentage points below the national and the regional average success rates, respectively. It can be assumed that the low pass rate in the North region was due to the small sample size, as well as the fact that schools in this region were closed for a longer period compared to most of the schools in the Sahel region. In some schools, students could only attend schools for four out of nine months.

Indicators	Cluster/sector 2018 target	Cluster/sector total results	UNICEF 2018 target	UNICEF total results
Number of boys and girls (3 to 17 years) affected by crisis accessing quality education (including through temporary learning structures)	150,000*	297,995	150,000	297,995
Number of boys and girls (3 to 17) affected by crisis attending education in a classroom where the teacher has been trained in psychosocial support ⁸	150,000*	293,357	150,000*	293,357
Number of boys and girls (3 to 17) affected by crisis attending education in a classroom where the teacher has been trained in conflict/Disaster risk reduction (DRR) ⁷	150,000*	293,357	150,000*	293,357

*cluster targets are the same as the UNICEF targets unless otherwise indicated.

While providing emergency responses, UNICEF also accelerated the implementation of the Safe School strategy through partnerships with NGOs and the Government to strengthen resilience in schools. In 2018, 1,400 schools in six regions bordering Mali implemented this strategy. In five regions (North, Centre-North, Boucles de Mouhoun, Cascade and Hauts Bassins), 293,357 students (128,010 girls) participated in the Safe School activities, almost double than the annual target of 150,000. Among them, 6,095 refugee children (3,294 girls) attended the schools located in the two refugee camps and host communities. UNICEF also provided support to the Ministry of Education Regional Direction of Sahel to ensure access to education

⁸ The implementation of the Safe school strategies was funded by both emergency and non-emergency contributions from donors.

(preschool, primary and post-primary) for 3,567 refugee children (1,758 girls) in the Goudebou and Mentaou refugee camps and in the two host communities of Goudebou and Selbo. 74 candidates (five girls) of Goudebou camp participated in the CEP exam with a 93 per cent pass rate overall and 100 per cent for girls.

UNICEF has also started the implementation of the pilot radio education as a complementary strategy to ensure continuity of education for children affected by temporary closure of schools. The SMS based data collection system, EduTrac, also became operational in two regions, connecting 1,149 school directors and 967 community members from 96 per cent of schools in Sahel Region and 50 per cent of schools in Namentenga (Centre North region). The first survey was launched in December 2018. By 31 December, school directors (38 per cent/982), except from the Seno province, answered questions such as their school opening date for the 2018-2019 academic year. This tool will also serve as a real time early warning mechanism of schools in zones affected by insecurity.

Furthermore, in the current humanitarian context characterized by a growing number of IDPs, UNICEF and the MoE initiated the development of the EiE strategy to better address the educational needs of children in the affected regions. For this, the Accelerated Schooling Strategy that was originally designed for OOSC in non-emergency situations, was considered as being relevant to the current emergency where nearly 170.000 children are unable to go to school due to the insecurity. UNICEF and partners are also experimenting adjustment and adaptation of this strategy for the children in koranic schools which currently offer only religious instructions, as combination of religious instructions and normal school curriculum can attract population as they are less likely to become target by extremists' activities.

Response to the Nutrition crisis

In 2018 UNICEF Burkina Faso played a critical role in supporting the leadership and commitment for the nutrition sector in general, but for the IMAM program in particular, including the response to the ongoing nutrition crisis. UNICEF's strategies included procurement of therapeutic products, support to mass screening of acute malnutrition integrated to seasonal and malaria chemoprophylaxis and community activities, as well as referrals and access to nutrition services. To ensure prevention of malnutrition, pregnant and lactating women with children under 2 benefited of infant and young child feeding IYCF counselling services at community level.

Identification of children with SAM was intensified through the integration of a SAM screening in routine child survival campaigns such as the Vitamin A supplementation/deworming and during the Seasonal Malaria Chemoprophylaxis (SMC) campaigns. UNICEF also continues to strengthen the national capacity in facility-based IMAM by ensuring training and supervision of health personnel and Community Health Workers (CHWs). From January to December 2018, 94,630 SAM children were admitted for treatment in 1,955 health facilities, representing the 51per cent of the estimated SAM caseload for 2018 with good performance indicators of 91 per cent of rate of recovery, 1.6 per cent of rate of mortality and a rate of defaulter of 7.4 per cent. Government and nutrition technical partners' interventions continued in food-insecure provinces including sales of subsidized foods, livelihood distributions, household cash transfers, prevention and management of malnutrition (led by UNICEF) as well as capacity building of farmers on innovative agriculture techniques to increase productivity.

The low coverage indicates the less-severe effects of the food and nutrition insecurity in Burkina Faso than initially foreseen, and also linked to the insufficient number of community health workers involved in malnutrition screening to ensure the full coverage, mainly in conflict-affected zones (Sahel and Est regions). In addition, UNICEF has reached 234,703 pregnant and lactating women with children under 2 years through the community-based IYCF programme to prevent malnutrition and promote mass screening of children aged 6 to 59 months for early detection of SAM. With regards to (IYCF) programme in emergency, 102,264 pregnant and lactating women with children 0-6 months have been reached by IYCF counselling in the Nord region.

Indicators	Cluster/sector 2018 Target	Cluster/sector total results	UNICEF 2018 Target	UNICEF Total results
Children < 5 years old with SAM admitted into therapeutic feeding programme	187,177*	94,630	187,177*	94,630
Children aged 6-23 months benefiting from Infant and Young Child Feeding services	400,000	234,703	400,000	234,703

*cluster targets are the same as the UNICEF targets unless otherwise indicated.

As the lead agency of the Technical and Financial Partners' group in Nutrition, UNICEF ensured strategic alignment across partners and facilitated policy dialogue between the partners and the Government (including interventions in emergency). Through the monthly IMAM sub-group meetings⁹, important information such as IMAM data trends, nutrition supply distribution plan, and results of the national nutrition survey were shared with partners. The synergy of the group successfully advocated for the integration of screening of SAM during the second round of the seasonal chemoprophylaxis against malaria campaign in August 2018. The partners' group also contributed to the development of the financial investment case for nutrition (for the Global Financing Facility) and the monitoring of the nutritional emergency. UNICEF played a critical role in developing the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) in collaboration with other partners and OCHA. UNICEF also contributed to the development of the Emergency and resilience response plan (PUR in French acronym) 2019 under the overall coordination of OCHA. From October to December 2018, UNICEF organized a monthly coordination meeting with all technical and financial partners.

WASH response

During the study camps set up by the education sector, UNICEF incorporated WASH services in the strategy to ensure the access to WASH services among 4,983 school children (boys and girls) and 492 teachers in the Sahel and North regions who participated in the camps. The interventions included daily water provision according to Sphere standard, gender-segregated latrines and showers, hygiene supplies (soap, MHM kits, water tanks and sensitization sessions, especially on handwashing). WASH results against the targets were under-achieved due to a

⁹ There are four sub-groups within the TFP group (1) Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition, (2) Infant and Young Child Feeding, (3) Food Security and other nutrition-sensitive interventions and (4) Advocacy sub-groups

large funding gap which caused delays in the WASH actions for Malian refugees. The combined funding contribution from all partners enabled 31,571 emergency-affected people to access to drinking water and adequate hygiene and sanitation.

UNICEF continued to lead the humanitarian coordination in WASH, convening sectoral meetings to update the 4W matrix (who does what, where and when) and the sectoral contingency plan. With OCHA's support, a dedicated [WASH web portal](#)¹⁰ was created to show in real time the actors and interventions in WASH.

Indicators	Cluster/sector 2018 target	Cluster/sector total results	UNICEF 2018 target	UNICEF total results
Number of people having access to drinking water (in humanitarian situation)	50,000	31,571	30,000	7,992
Number of people being provided with sanitation services (in humanitarian situation)	50,000	31,571	30,000	7,992
Mothers/caregivers received key hygiene messages	24,000	116,517	24,000	116,517

To build the capacities of the NGOs and government partners in water, sanitation and hygiene in humanitarian crises, UNICEF, in collaboration with the 2IE training institute, organized the 9th annual capacity building training session for 10 days. It was attended by 27 participants from eight African countries¹¹. UNICEF Burkina supported five participants currently involved in the emergency WASH cluster and working directly on response planning for floods and IDPs. Also, in collaboration with the UNICEF WCARO, Bioforce and Oxfam, the CO organized a cholera training with 25 national participants in October 2018. Focus in 2019 is to carry out a WASH humanitarian needs assessment and speeding up the emergency responses targeting the growing number of IDPs in Sahel, North, Central North and East regions.

Child protection-emergency response

UNICEF continued the implementation of child protection activities such as psychosocial support through child-friendly spaces and case management in the two refugee camps of Goudebou and Mentao and in host communities for refugee and IDP children. Through UNICEF's financial and technical supports, 12,657 (6,754 girls) children affected by emergency, including 3,621 refugee children (1,769 girls) and 9,036 (4,958 girls) from host communities, have received multi-sectoral child protection services. These services included family identification, listening, psychological first aid and emergency care according to their specific protection needs, social survey, family research and sensitisation on dangers of illegal/unsafe migration and mobility, and referral for appropriate protection services. 65 UASC also received alternative care (temporary placement in foster families while waiting for the family tracing) and family reunification.

¹⁰ [WASH web portal https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/burkina-faso/water-sanitation-hygiene](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/burkina-faso/water-sanitation-hygiene)

¹¹ Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, DR Congo, Guinea, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal

To support the initiative of the study camps led by UNICEF's education section, UNICEF Child Protection section, through a partnership with the NGO CN-AEJTB^[1], implemented capacity building on multi-sectoral child protection approaches for 735 (143 women) key actors involved in the initiative. These actors included primary and post-primary teachers, social workers and security forces. Participants (students) of the study camps also received training on the rights and protection of children, prevention of violence, exploitation and abuse (including sexual violence and gender-based violence GBV) and referral mechanism for children at risk.

In addition, during the study camps in two sites, UNICEF provided a package of socio-educational activities and psychosocial support to 4,983 children who attended the intensive courses for 2.5 months.

Capacity building including life skills education on peace building, citizenship and child rights was also provided to more than 707 adolescents (396 girls) of the refugee camps and host communities. Nearly 1,961 parents and caregivers (1,440 women) were directly reached through periodic educative talks on parenting in the context of the humanitarian response in the Sahel region.

In 2018, Gender-based violence (GBV) risk mitigation interventions through UNICEF-supported programmes reached 5,470 people (2,726 women) in humanitarian situations. The interventions included awareness raising sessions, information on referral mechanism, and life skills education for adolescent girls and boys for their own protection from GBV.

Indicators	Cluster/sector 2017 target	Cluster/sector total results	UNICEF 2017 target	UNICEF total results
Children reached with psychosocial support through child friendly spaces/other safe spaces	11,000*	12,657	11,000*	12,657
Children provided with access to safe community spaces for socialization, play and learning	11,000*	4,301	11,000*	4,301
# of unaccompanied children reunified with their biological families	100	65	100	65

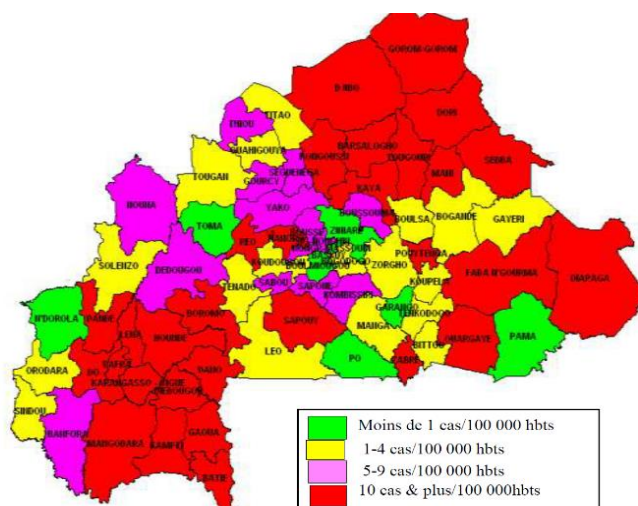
*cluster targets are the same as the UNICEF targets unless otherwise indicated.

Health- emergency response

As part of the emergency response to the measles outbreak, UNICEF supported the national immunization campaign against measles for 1.2 million of children 6-59 months in 26 health districts across 13 regions. In partnership with the Ministry of Health and local radios, communication for behavior and social change were implemented to strengthen the knowledge of families and communities on measles, mobilize families and communities to get children vaccinated and sustain changes at community level to improve routine immunization of children against measles.

^[1] Coordination Nationale des Associations d'Enfants et Jeunes travailleurs du Burkina Faso

During the campaign, UNICEF-supported [U-Report](#) was used to send SMS messages on measles prevention to over 28,000 young people (12 to 24 years), while collecting data on their knowledge about the disease. Out of 10,000 participants to the poll, 62 percent were aware of the epidemic outbreak. After the vaccination campaign, independent monitoring showed that up to 95 per cent of targeted children in the 26 districts were vaccinated.



Mapping of health districts per cumulative incidence of cases measles suspects in 2018 (Ministry of Health, June 2018)

During the study camps organized for students in Sahel and North regions, UNICEF distributed 3,145 mosquito nets and other interventions were carried out to ensure the health and nutrition of participating students. These mosquito nets used for the study camps had been purchased and pre-positioned prior to 2018, not with the emergency grant available in 2018.

a. Case Studies

Title: “The Study camps operations saved the school year among 5,000 students affected by school closures”

Top Level Results: The “Study camps” operation provided around 4,700 students who, otherwise, have missed the school year due to their schools’ closures, the opportunity to prepare for, and sit in the end-of-section exams. Although these students missed at least a few months of schooling, their success rate was comparable to the one among their counterparts at national and regional levels. Utilisation of the UNICEF’s regular resources and the Global thematic funds for education (non-emergency contribution) has allowed the flexibility and timeliness of the interventions.

Issue/Background: Due to repeated attacks or threats by violent extremists’ groups targeting security forces and schools in the northern part of Burkina Faso, many schools have been closed, depriving thousands of children of their right to education. As a response, the Ministry of Education took a radical decision to organize “study camps” during the summer vacation in Nord and Sahel regions targeting primary and secondary students who could not attend school for the full school year and had to sit for end-of-section exams. This operation aimed at establishing camps in school compounds in safer cities (Djibo and Ouahigouya) to provide students with two months’ intensive catch-up courses, so that they could prepare for, and take the end-of-section exams. UNICEF played a leading role in coordinating this emergency operation along with other partners, donors and NGOs.

Resources Required/Allocated: The cost for this operation was US\$2.7 million (or US\$550 per student), which is considered very high. The budget was co-funded by UNICEF and the Education's sector-wide basket fund. The Government (Ministry of Education and other ministries) contributed 47% of the budget, UNICEF's contribution was 23% and the Basket fund for 30%. Apart from the hard-ware supports (e.g. school kits, tents, mats, mosquito nets, etc.) provided, UNICEF in collaboration with NGO partners and WFP implemented holistic, gender-sensitive interventions in WASH and protection, health and nutrition to create a conducive environment for participating students. Inter-ministerial collaboration between Ministries of Education and of Interior, as well as support from local authorities was key to ensuring security for the successful implementation of this innovative strategy.

Progress and Results: A total of 4,983 children (2,239 girls) out of 5,528 who received an invitation (90.1 per cent) attended the study camps, demonstrating strong motivation from the parents for their children to pursue their education. In terms of results, the success rate for the Primary Education Certificate among the students who attended the study camps in the Sahel region was 65.60 per cent, 1.43 points above the national rate and more than 5.0 points above the average of the region (Ministry of Education).

In the Nord region, the success rate for participants of the study camps was 54.74 per cent, 10.08 and 3.99 percentage below the national and the regional rates, respectively. Possible reasons for this may be the longer period (by several months) of school closures compared to those in the Sahel region, thus, catch-up courses for two months might not have been sufficient.

Table: results from the exams for children attended the study camps v.s. average exam success rates.

	Special Exam organized during the group study camps (Soum province)	Normal exam Sahel (excluding Soum)	Normal Session National	Special Exam North region	Normal Session North
Success rate 2017- 2018	65.6%	60.45%	64.82%	54.74%	58.73%

Criticality and value addition: This intervention had the value added to the overall humanitarian programme given the context - massive phenomena of a number of schools had to be closed due to violent extremists' activities- in the northern part of the country. The engagement and political will of the Government translated into successfully securing the camps (where over 60% of students/participants came from outside of the cities and lived in a residential setting) and the zones where the study camps were implemented (the capital cities in the Sahel and Nord regions) for the duration of 2.5 months. Expected results were to help the participating students to catch up on their learning due to missed days of schooling, and to have the eligible students successfully take and pass the end of section exams.

Challenges and Lesson Learned: Based on the after-action-review sessions with local actors and Ministry of Education, the study camps were considered as an innovative and timely emergency response to tackle discontinued access to schools due to insecurity. The review however, concluded that the decision of replicating a similar operation needs to be carefully examined in the future, balancing the security risk and costs over the benefits. Given the substantial number of schools closed (nearly 100,000 students affected by the end of 2018), this kind of operation could no longer be employed, given the high cost of interventions and limited number of students who could benefit from in an increasingly high-risk environment like the Sahel region in Burkina Faso.

Moving Forward: Since late 2018, Ministry of Education and the partners' group led by UNICEF started brainstorming a new strategy to explore alternative, cost-effective and sustainable strategies to ensure the rights of children to education in the zones affected by insecurity. For this, the Accelerated Schooling Strategy, originally designed for out-of-school children in non-emergency situations, was considered as relevant to the current emergency if this can be implemented in a secured place with a possibility of mobilizing students from the zones of insecurity. UNICEF and partners are also experimenting adjustment and adaptation of this strategy for children in koranic schools which currently offer religious instructions only, but a possibility of combining it with the normal school curriculum. Implementing this new strategy in Koranic schools could attract more parents to send their children to schools that are less likely to become target by extremists' activities.

As of this write-up, the strategy has been finalized and started being implemented, targeting the Est region first, to progressively re-open the schools which had been closed due to insecurity. UNICEF and the Education's partners' group are supporting the Ministry of Education with the implementation of this strategy through technical and financial supports. UNICEF has especially played a key role in: 1) review and consolidation of comments on the draft strategy to help the MoE finalize it; 2) capacity development of the newly created secretary on Education in Emergency in MoE; and 3) resource mobilization and increased visibility of this issue.

C. Results Achieved from Humanitarian Thematic Funding

a. Thematic Funding Case Studies

In 2018, UNICEF-Burkina Faso used the contribution from the Global Humanitarian Thematic Funding to support the implementation of the Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) activities in the emergency-affected Sahel region as a part of the community-based interventions to build resilience. The interventions target host communities of Malian refugees as well as other communities in the zones affected by emergency. The CLTS is an innovative methodology for mobilising communities for social and behavioural changes to completely eliminate open defecation (OD). The entire population including women, children and adolescents are mobilised to conduct their own appraisal and analysis of open defecation (OD) and plan and implement their own actions to become ODF (open defecation free) villages.

This approach focuses on the behavioural change needed to ensure real and sustainable improvements – investing in community mobilisation instead of hardware, and shifting the focus from toilet construction for individual households to the creation of demand among the population for open defecation-free villages. In Burkina Faso, open defecation free (ODF) remains a difficult scourge to halt. Its impact is so strong on health, nutrition, the well-being and dignity of children and women.

Besides the fact that it is the region hardest hit by the ongoing security crisis and the chronic nutrition insecurity, the Sahel region is among those with the lowest sanitation rates in Burkina Faso. With the growing number of internal displaced populations (IDPs), poor sanitation practices pose stronger threats to people health especially in host communities which could potentially cause epidemics of water-borne diseases such as cholera.

In 2018 UNICEF-Burkina Faso office with its implementing partners such as Oxfam and DRC scaled up CLTS activities in the Sahel region, advocated for policy shift and institutional triggering with authorities (central and local) and communities. More specifically, 120 new villages (438 communities) were triggered for the CLTS initiative in the Soum and Seno provinces, and of those, 51 villages (111 communities) have been declared ODF. Out of these newly ODF declared communities, 11 have been already certified after six months by the government's evaluation committee, with 3 300 persons living in sustained open defecation-free areas.

Within the UNICEF's country programme and HAC 2018, WASH programme had the largest funding gap against planned budget. The CLTS is one of the areas of the WASH programme with critical funding gaps. Implementing such a strategy in conflict-affected zones like Sahel region (especially Soum province) will bring a value added to the current interventions to ensure the humanitarian-development nexus by strengthening the community resilience. The flexibility of the Global humanitarian thematic funding allowed UNICEF to implement the CLTS in the hard-to-reach areas with competent implementing partners.

D. Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation

In 2018, in response to the deterioration of security, UNICEF-Burkina Faso developed the HAC appeal 2018 as a stand-alone country (prior to this, it was in the regional HAC) and published [trimestral situation reports \(SitRep\)](#) to ensure data-driven humanitarian performance monitoring (HPM). Three SitReps and factsheets were published under WCARO's and HQ's technical oversight, to update stakeholders about the situation of children and women affected by emergency and UNICEF and partner's responses.

Between September and October 2018, the Ministry of Health conducted the annual National Nutrition Survey using the SMART method. UNICEF's role in coordinating and facilitating the process was instrumental to ensure the quality results from this joint study. This year, the MoH contributed US\$474,000 (more than a half of the total budget of around US\$800,000) to this survey, complemented by financial contribution from UNICEF (US\$270,000) and the World Food Programme (US\$45,000). The results have been analysed by the Government and the partners' group in nutrition and used for developing strategic documents such as HNO and HAC 2019, and planning for the procurement of nutrition supplies for 2019.

The EduTrac platform was launched by Ministry of Education with UNICEF's supports in October 2018. The platform is now connecting 1,258 school directors in all schools in the Sahel Region and the Namentenga province of the Centre North region with authorities in MoE. This SMS innovative approach enables the collection of monthly real time data on education indicators by the directors and community representatives. In 2019, UNICEF will continue its technical and financial support to the MoE to fully operationalized this SMS-based data collection tool which could also serve as a real time early warning mechanism of schools in emergency-affected zones.

E. Financial Analysis

Table 1: 2018 funding status against the appeal by sector (revenue in US\$)¹²

Sector	Requirements	Funds Available Against Appeal as of 31 December 2018 ¹³		% Funding Gap
		Funds Received in 2018	Carry-Over	
Nutrition	24,400,000	9,188,485	283,938	61.2%
Health	130,000	120,000	122,844	0
Water and Environmental Sanitation	3,100,000	324,499	122,844	86%
Child Protection	917,000	819,391	148,495	0
Education	7,600,000	4,396,153 ¹⁴	206,778	39%
Total	36,147,000	14,848,528	884,899	56%

¹² Revised requirements according to HAC mid-year review 2018. Figures have been updated for the end of year Sitrep to reflect the different resources provided generously by donors for activities outlined in the 2018 HAC for Burkina Faso.

¹³ Funds available includes funding received for emergency contributions only, against current appeal as well as carry-over from the previous year. Funds allocated to programme effectiveness, cross-cutting, Social inclusion and 8% HQ recovery cost were included in each section evenly.

¹⁴ In addition to the emergency resources reported in the table above, UNICEF received other resources aimed at interventions in emergency/resilience building in Education including: US\$3,468,153 from Denmark and US\$928,000 from Norway (both targeting the Sahel region).

Table 2: Funding received and available by donor and funding type (US\$)

Donor Name/Type of funding	Programme Allotment reference	Budget	Overall Amount*
I. Humanitarian funds received in 2018			
a) Thematic Humanitarian Funds			
See details in Table 3	SM189910		568,692
b) Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds			
Canada	SM180165		1,293,571
USAID/ Food for Peace	SM180305		1,000,000
SIDA/Sweden	SM180056		804,598
Japan	SM180056		500,000
Total Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds			3,598,169
c) Pooled Funding			
(i) CERF Grants			
(ii) Other Pooled funds - including Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF), Humanitarian Response Funds, Emergency Response Funds, UN Trust Fund for Human Security, Country-based Pooled Funds etc.			
CERF	SM180266		3,000,000
Total humanitarian funds received in 2018			6,598,169
II. Carry-over of humanitarian funds available in 2018			
e) Carry over Thematic Humanitarian Funds			
Thematic Humanitarian Funds	SM149910		336,690
f) Carry-over of non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds			
Switzerland	SM170376		206,778
USAID/Food for Peace	SM170458		173,849
Japan	SM170055		90,807
European Commission/ECHO	SM170187		29,218
European Commission/ECHO	SM160508		5,027
Total carry-over non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds			505,679
Total carry-over humanitarian funds			884,900

Table 3: Thematic Humanitarian contributions received in 2018

Thematic Humanitarian Contributions Received in 2018 (in US\$) Donor	Grant Number ¹⁵	Programmable Amount (in US\$)	Total Contribution Amount (in US\$)
Allocation from global Thematic Humanitarian ¹⁶	SM189910	568,692	600,000
Total		568,692	600,000

¹⁵ International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) requires all grants to be listed in reporting. <http://iatistandard.org/>

¹⁶ Global Thematic Humanitarian Funding contributions are pooled and then allocated to country and regional offices. For a detailed list of grants, please see the 2018 Humanitarian Action Annual Results Reports.

F. Future Work Plan

Since early January 2019, the humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso has evolved further, with unprecedented increase in IDP (mostly in Sahel and Centre-nord regions but also in the Est region) and significant increase in the insecurity incidents involving deaths. Current emergency context would require UNICEF and partners to quickly operationalise the emergency coordination system to rapidly expand multi-sectoral humanitarian responses especially in Education, nutrition, WASH and CP for which UNICEF is the lead agency. The CO's emergency response (under the development) will be aligned with the CPD strategies, especially on the humanitarian-development nexus and building resilience/sustainable peace. The office will also be strengthening monitoring and reporting capacity and increasing visibility to put Burkina Faso on the map of the global humanitarian community to ask for required supports.

UNICEF-Burkina Faso's strategy which combines emergency response with community-based resilience-building interventions remains relevant. While focusing on the acute emergency responses especially in newly created IDP sites in the Centre-Nord region, UNICEF continues to collaborate with Ministry of Education and mobilise actors as the lead agency for the Education sector to tackle a huge challenge faced by almost 1,300 schools closed in four regions (as of March 22, 2019). The expansion of the Safe School Strategy to the North and Est regions will facilitate further integration of disaster risk reduction, risk mitigation and psychosocial support into child-friendly school programmes to build resilience in schools. Radio-based education which was just launched in December 2018 will be operationalized to support children affected by school closures, while the EduTrac will be used as an early warning system in schools.

Tapping into the provincial and regional CP networks set up in 2018, UNICEF will continue to provide community-based protection services for vulnerable children affected by emergency, focusing on psychosocial support and case management for UASC affected by violence. The WASH emergency response will support health, nutrition and education services by increasing access to potable water, expanding the community-led total sanitation in fragile or emergency-affected regions, and hygiene promotion, including menstrual hygiene management in schools. As the lead agency of the partners' group in Nutrition, UNICEF will facilitate the national ready-to-use therapeutic food procurement system for SAM treatment and partners' coordination in nutrition to expand under the infant and young child feeding (IYCF) programme and counselling for pregnant and lactating women in emergency-affected communities. The health response will focus on vaccination, especially against measles, to prevent disease outbreaks in emergency-affected communities.

G. Expression of Thanks

UNICEF Burkina Faso would like to thank all the donors who have contributed to the Global Humanitarian Thematic Funding as well as to non-thematic humanitarian funds at providing humanitarian support to the children and women affected by insecurity, conflict and natural disasters in the country. None of these operations, at times life changing for many children, would not have been possible without the valuable contribution from the donors, especially the flexible and unearmarked funding such as the Global Humanitarian Thematic Fund. We shall continue to ensure the maximum and best use of the contribution to save and improve the lives of children and women in Burkina Faso.

Annexes to the CER

- a. Two-pagers – non-Thematic Funding contributions

See separate PDF documents

- b. Donor Statement (As of 31 December 2018)

See separate PDF documents

- c. Human Interest Stories and Communication

See separate PDF documents

- d. Donor Feedback Forms

UNICEF-Burkina Faso welcomes feedback from donors on the quality of report for quality improvement of future donor reports. Please click below link to fill out an online feedback form.

- [English version](#)