

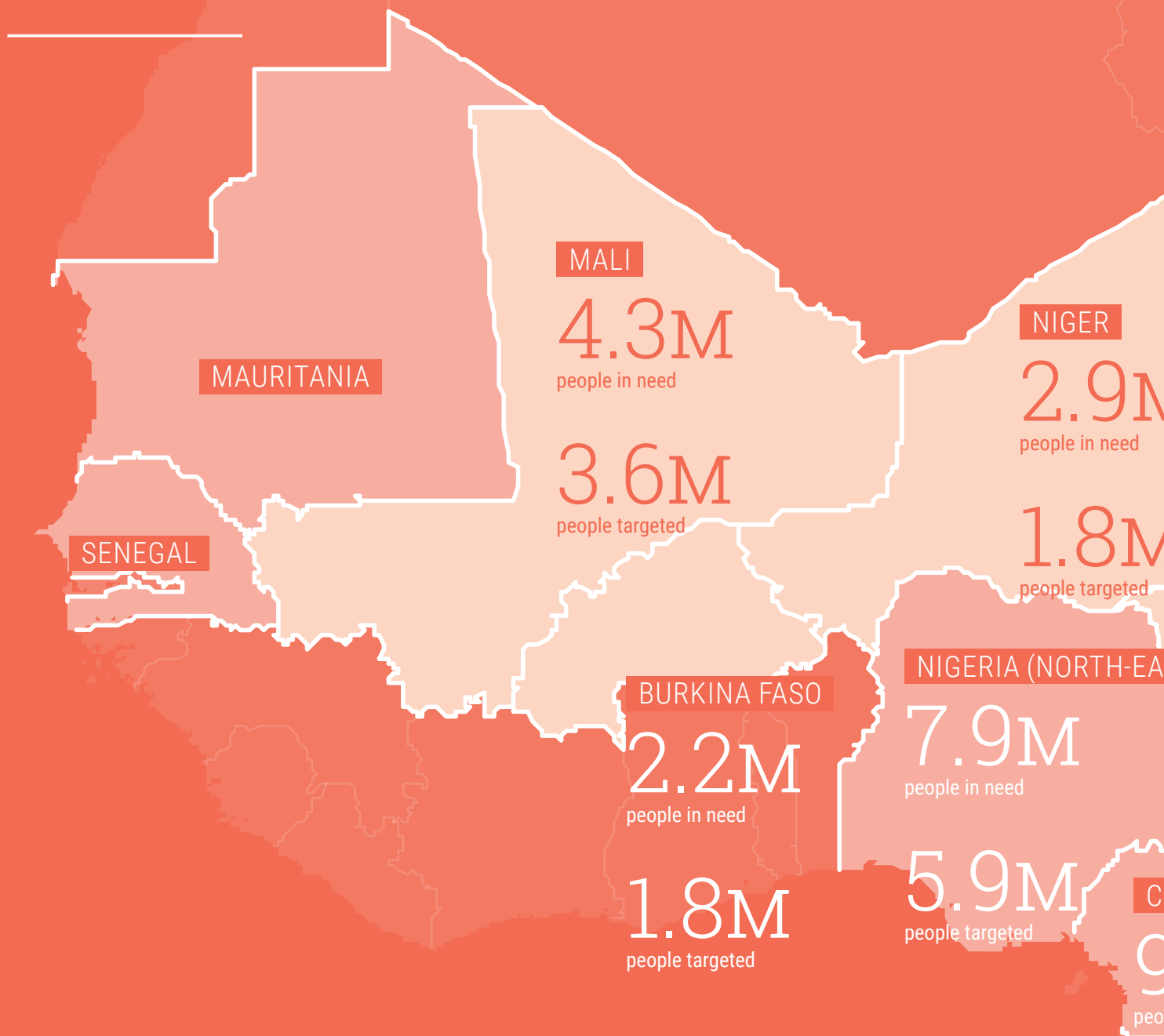
OVERVIEW OF HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS SAHEL CRISIS

HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM
CYCLE 2020
PUBLISHED IN MAY 2020



The Sahel

Escalating needs in a regional crisis



120M
total population



23.6M
people in need



16.9M
people targeted



\$2.8B
country HRP
requirement

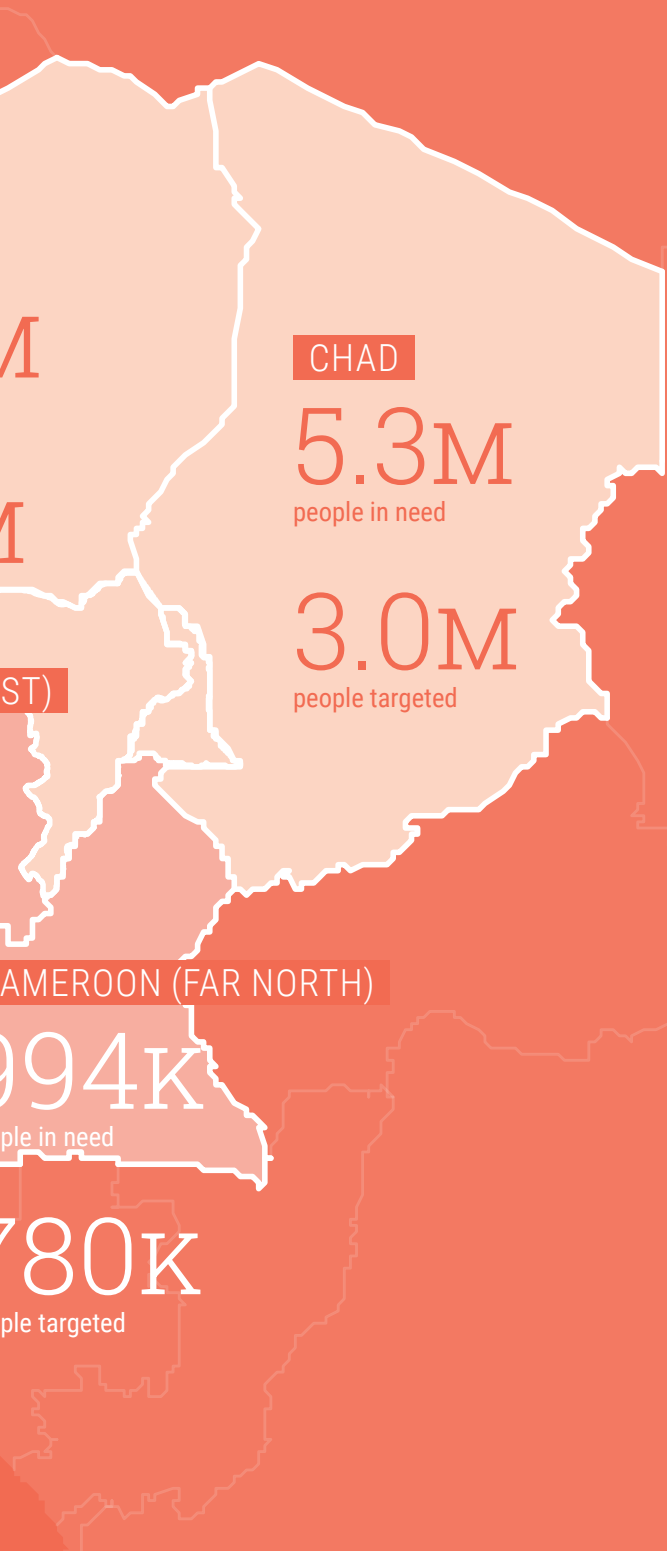


\$638M
COVID-19 GHRP
requirement

The rapid deterioration of the Sahel crisis has driven humanitarian needs across the region to unprecedented levels. Conflict, climate shocks, chronic vulnerabilities and endemic poverty are putting millions at risk.

Escalating violence has forced more people than ever before to flee their homes. A dramatic food crisis hits the conflict-affected regions the hardest. And the Covid-19 pandemic risks wreaking havoc on the most vulnerable population.

In 2020, a new record high of 24 million Sahelians will need life-saving assistance and protection. Coordinated action, sufficient resources and a principled response are urgently required to bring aid operations to scale and turn the crisis around.



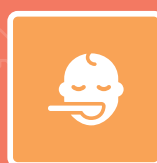
205
security incidents per month,
4 times more than in 2012



4.5M
people displaced
(internally displaced and refugees)



12.2M
people food insecure at crisis
and emergency levels



1.6M
children severely
malnourished



18%
average funding
of the 2020 HRP's

This report is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from January to December 2020. Where not stated otherwise, Sahel and all related figures are referring to Burkina Faso, northern Cameroon (Far North region), Chad, Niger, north-east Nigeria (Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states), Mali. Requirement and funding figures are for entire HRP/country. Food security and nutrition figures also include Senegal and Mauritania.

Timeline of key events

(2012-2020)

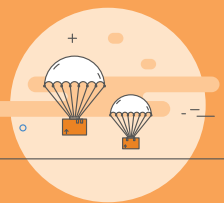


Major drought and subsequent food crisis affects 18 million people

2012

March 2012
Mali **Government overthrown**.
Thousands of people displaced

2013



June 2013
UN mission **deployed** to Mali

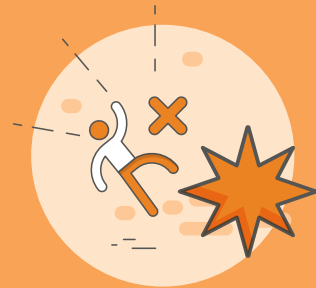
2014

April 2014
276 schoolgirls **kidnapped** in Chibok in Borno state

December 2014
Over 1 million people **displaced** in the four LCB countries

2015

February 2015
Armed groups **expand raids** into Cameroon, Chad and Niger



November 2015
20 **killed** in Bamako hotel raid

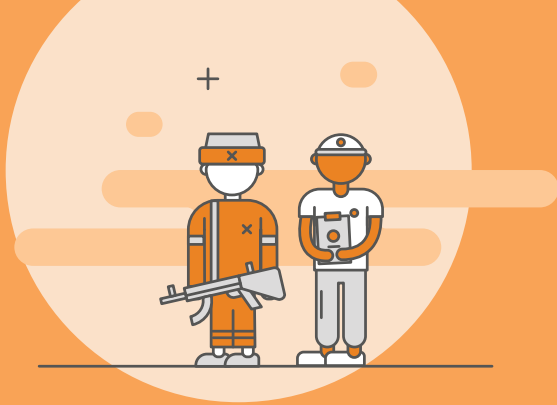
September 2015
Burkina Faso **president ousted** in a coup

June 2016
2.4 million people **displaced** in LCB, a three-fold increase in less than two years



2016

January 2016
Gunmen **kill 30** in Ouagadougou hotel attack



November 2017
First G5 Sahel Joint force operation in border areas

January 2020
In 2020, a new record high of **24 million Sahelians need assistance and protection**

February 2020
4.3 million people in the region are **uprooted** from their homes, five times more than in 2012

February 2019
New peak in armed attacks, **2.7 million people displaced**

March 2020
Burkina Faso shows **almost 650% increase in civilian conflict deaths**

August 2017
18 killed in Ouagadougou café gun attack

January 2019
More than 200 killed in attacks against villages in Sahel region, Burkina Faso

March 2019
At least 157 killed in village attack in Mopti region, Mali

2017

2018

2019

2020

January 2017
Famine alert in LCB: **Over 7 million people facing hunger**, of whom 5.1 million in Nigeria

March 2018
Three UN aid workers killed in attack in Rann, Nigeria

May 2019
The number of **displaced people in Burkina quadrupled in 6 months**

March 2020
Cases of Covid-19 confirmed in all Sahel countries



July 2017
Number of **children used as "suicide bombers"** rises four-fold over 2016

August 2019
State of emergency declared in eastern Chad amid intercommunal conflict



November 2019
Floods affect 200,000 people in Chad

June 2020
12.3 million face food insecurity in the lean season

The Sahel

Converging crises, unprecedented needs

A region exposed to crises and disasters

Sahel countries count among the world's most exposed to crises and disasters. Increasingly unpredictable weather patterns, frequent droughts and floods and land degradation threaten the livelihoods of highly vulnerable communities. Food insecurity and malnutrition are high and widespread, with seasonal peaks pushing rural areas into severe crisis.

A surge in armed conflict and violence, now affecting vast areas, has worsened persistent needs, uprooted entire communities and disrupted livelihoods. Exacerbated by conflict dynamics and environmental degradation, tensions in communities with deep-rooted grievances are growing.

RECORD HIGHS OF HUNGER AND DISPLACEMENT

Across the region, 6.9 million people are grappling with the dire consequences of forced displacement. Almost 4.5 million people are internally displaced or refugees – one million more than in 2018 – and 2.5 million returnees are struggling to rebuild their lives. Insecurity and attacks are also severely disrupting basic social services, jeopardizing the future of thousands of children and depriving violence-affected people and communities of critical services.

In 2020, 24 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection – the highest number ever recorded. Concerted action is urgently required to prevent further spread of the crisis and spill-over into new regions and West African coastal countries. The future of millions of people, 4 out of 5 being younger under 35 age old, is at stake.

24 million need aid - the highest number ever recorded

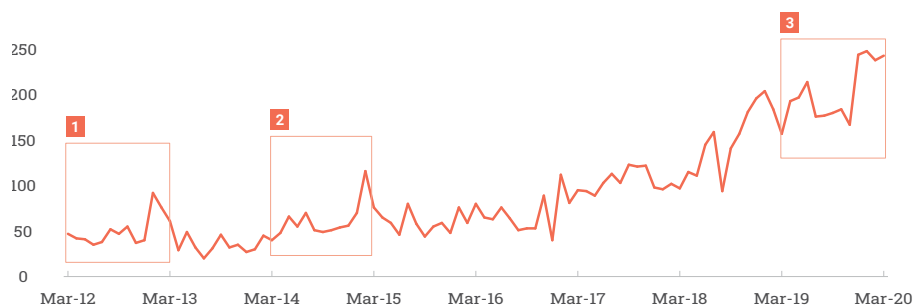
Food insecurity in 2020 is expected to spike to unprecedented peaks, with 13 million people facing a critical lack of food. Malnutrition in conflict-affected areas risks deteriorating fast, and 1.6 million children under 5 will be suffering from severe acute malnutrition.

Only coordinated investments in multi-dimensional solutions will reverse the deteriorating trend in the region, uplift Sahel's most vulnerable inhabitants from recurrent crises, and create stable conditions for communities and families to prosper.

Insecurity and conflict in the Sahel have dramatically increased over the last years and are key drivers of humanitarian needs. While responding to the resulting emergency is an absolute priority, insecurity makes the delivery of assistance increasingly challenging.

In addition, the Covid-19 pandemic has the potential to wreak havoc on fragile health systems hitting vulnerable population the hardest.

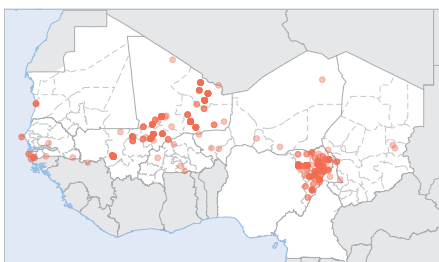
SECURITY SITUATION TREND



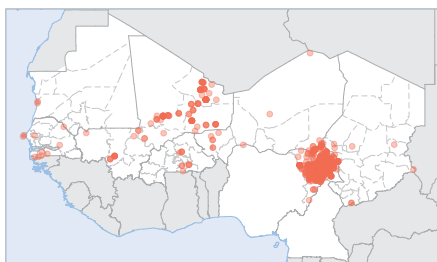
The maps and graph include incidents in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, parts of Cameroon (Far North region), Nigeria (Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states) and Senegal. Security incidents include battles, explosions / remote violence, violence against civilians and strategic developments (looting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

Source: ACLED

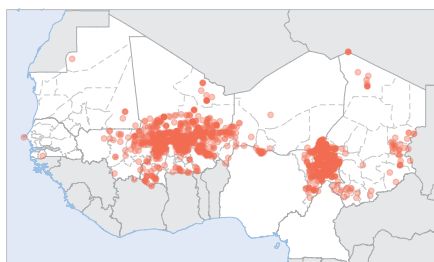
1 March 2012 - March 2013



2 March 2014 - March 2015



3 March 2019 - March 2020



FAST DETERIORATION IN THE CENTRAL SAHEL

Escalating displacement and protection crisis

The security situation in the three-border area of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger has continued to escalate. The area is home to numerous non-state armed groups in conflict with armed forces. In Mali, there has been a sharp increase in violent incidents, spilling over into Burkina Faso and western Niger. In Burkina Faso, until recently spared by conflict, one in three persons is now affected by the crisis, with an estimated 2.2 million people in need of assistance.

The degradation of the security situation has resulted in massive forced displacement. Across Mali, western Niger and Burkina Faso, the number of internally displaced people has risen from 70,000 in 2018 to 1.2 million.

10 million people in the LCB need urgent life-saving assistance and protection.

In 2020, 7.5 million people living in the Central Sahel will require urgent humanitarian assistance and protection.

UNABATED CONFLICT IN THE LAKE CHAD REGION

The armed conflict in the Lake Chad Basin is showing no signs of abating. While the number of conflict-related incidents and fatalities has reduced since its peak in 2015, large areas of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states in Nigeria remain outside of government control. Incursions and violent incidents in neighbouring Niger, Chad and Cameroon remain common, leading to additional displacement and humanitarian needs.

Ten million people in the Lake Chad Basin need urgent life-saving assistance and protection. This represents half the entire population in the region. Across the region, 2.7 million people have fled their homes, including 2.5 million internally displaced people and 247,000 Nigerian refugees. The displacement situation remains fluid and complex, with returns of IDPs and refugees occurring at the same time as new displacements. Over the past few months, thousands of civilians have been newly displaced and relief operations disrupted by attacks.

MASSIVE PROTECTION CRISIS

The consequences of the surge in armed violence on the civilian population are dramatic. Attacks on communities, schools, health centres and other public institutions are threatening civilians' lives, heightening protection needs, and jeopardizing social cohesion. Human rights violations including sexual and gender-based violence are increasing.

In the Central Sahel, the number of reported fatalities has risen sharply over the last year. In 2019, more than 4,300 civilians were killed. Local communities are at risk of being stigmatized by the violence, and civilian casualties due to intercommunal violence have been increasing.

Dramatic consequences of armed violence on civilian population

In the Lake Chad region, violent attacks from non-state armed groups directly targeting civilians, authorities and aid workers are multiplying.

Thousands of civilians have been killed or abducted. Women and girls face particularly high risks of sexual and gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse primarily by armed groups but also by men in uniform. Men and boys have also been kidnapped by non-state armed groups and forced to become combatants.

DEVASTATING IMPACT ON CHILDREN

The rapidly deteriorating situation is having devastating impact on children's survival, education, protection and development. Children and their families fleeing conflict are at greater risk of violence, exploitation and recruitment by non-state armed groups. Attacks against children have spiked over the past year.

In Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, some 4,000 schools are closed or non-operational because of direct attacks on education infrastructures and personnel. Over 8 million children, 6-14 years old, are out of school, more than half of all children in this age group. In the Lake Chad region, 1,000 schools remain closed. The disruption of education and basic services affects the human capital of millions of children in a region struggling to reap a window of opportunity for a demographic dividend.

In a context of daily security incidents, humanitarian operations are facing challenges in reaching affected people in violence-affected areas. Multiplying attacks and military operations severely hinder access to conflict-affected communities. In north-east Nigeria, 1.2 million people estimated to be living outside of government-controlled areas cannot be reached with any assistance.

CLIMATE SHOCKS AMPLIFY RISKS

Populations in the Sahel already count among the world's most at risk of crises and disasters. 80 per cent of the population depends on natural resources for their livelihoods relying on subsistence farming and livestock breeding or herding. Now they are seeing their environment change radically because of the effects of climate change. In a region with one of the world's highest population growth rates, and dwindling resources, vulnerabilities will further increase, fueling new conflicts and forced migration.

The Sahel is a hotspot of climate change. Temperatures are rising 1.5 times faster than in the rest of the world, despite the region emitting very low greenhouse gases. Rainfall is irregular and increasingly unpredictable. Model studies suggest the number of extreme rainfall days is increasing and droughts are becoming more recurrent and severe.

While the Sahel is largely dependent on agriculture, 80 per cent of the agricultural land is degraded and regularly hit by drought



NORTHERN BURKINA FASO

OCHA/Giles Clarke

and flood. The consequences on food security are devastating, affecting local food production and availability and often leading to increased food prices and risk of social unrest and conflict.

SCARCE RESOURCES AND INTER-COMMUNITY CONFLICTS

Existing tensions between pastoralist communities and farmers are intensifying as a result of climate change, as communities compete for access to shrinking available land and unpredictable access to water resources for cultivation and pasture. Swaths of pastoral and agro-pastoral regions are suffering severe pasture and water deficits.

Droughts prematurely thrust pastoralist communities into the lean season

The migration and movement of people and livestock are part of traditional livelihoods in the region. However, migration also increases when livelihoods are no longer viable. Northern

pastoralists are moving further southwards into regions used by farmers, while

population growth and demand for food has led to wider land cultivation in areas traditionally used by pastoralists. At the same time, droughts prematurely thrust pastoralist communities into the lean season, with herders migrating earlier than usual. Traditional transhumance routes become disrupted in a context of weak governance and land tenure challenges. In 2020, around 2.5 million pastoralists and agro pastoralists are at risk of serious livelihood crisis.

DOUBLE THREAT OF CLIMATE DISASTERS

The population in need of assistance as a result of climate-related disasters is on the rise, and will further increase. Vulnerable communities face a double threat. More frequent, severe and unpredictable weather events like floods, droughts and extreme heat lead to loss of livelihoods, reducing incomes and resilience. This in turn affects the capacity for these communities to cope with shocks and makes them reliant on assistance.

HELPING COMMUNITIES COPE

Early warning systems are being reinforced to assess and monitor risks and warn communities of a potential crisis. There is also an urgent need to rethink climate change mitigation actions, sensitive to regional migration and conflict. Donors, humanitarians, local institutions and

scientists must work with communities to implement more sustainable solutions. Limiting environmental degradation is a priority, alongside the improvement of water, energy and land management. Affected communities need viable prospects for the future.

PEAKS OF FOOD INSECURITY

UNPRECEDENTED DETERIORATION

Violence and insecurity drive food crisis

The Sahel region is expected to face an alarming deterioration of its food security in 2020.

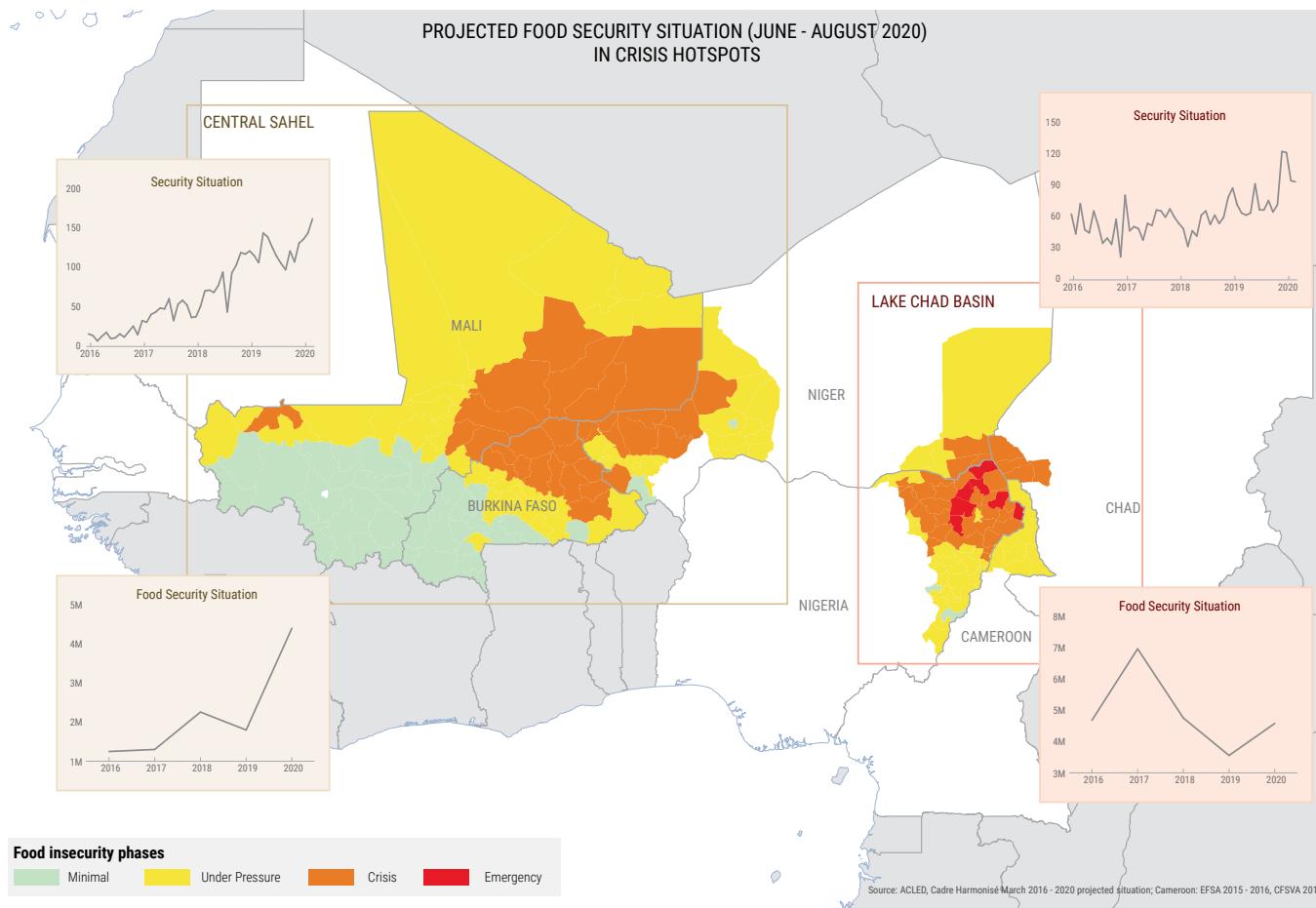
While chronic climatic factors such as the episodes of drought and floods have impacted food production, availability and access over the last decade, the recent upsurge of violence and insecurity has become the main driver of needs.

In 2020, the number of people facing critical lack of food will deteriorate to unprecedented peaks. According to the consolidated results of the Cadre Harmonisé analyses from eight Sahelian countries, more than 12 million people will experience crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity during the next lean season. These figures are the highest in a decade.

BARSALOGHO, BURKINA FASO
OCHA/Otto Bakano



FOOD SECURITY IN CRISIS HOTSPOTS



In the Central Sahel, the situation has deteriorated most dramatically. Compared to the last five years average, the number of people facing hunger has more than tripled in Burkina Faso (+225%), almost doubled in Mali (+91%), and increased by 77% in Niger.

RISK OF WORSENING MALNUTRITION

In 2020, it is estimated that in the Sahelian zone, more than 5.4 million children under five will suffer from acute malnutrition, including 2.4 million of its severe form¹. While the latest national nutritional surveys indicate a relatively stable situation, this figure will likely deteriorate if early and sustained actions are not taken.

Serious levels of global acute malnutrition (GAM) persist in Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. Certain regions of Chad, Mauritania and Mali show levels above the emergency threshold of 15%. The national prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) exceeds or equals the emergency threshold in Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Chad.

Food security and access to continuous quality health care are two key factors in ensuring the nutritional security of women and children. However, a context combining insecurity and violence, displacement of populations and disruption of basic social services could directly impact the nutritional status of the most vulnerable. In addition, the resurgence of diarrheal diseases and

¹ Burkina Faso, Cameroon (4 Northern Regions), Chad, Gambia (the), Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal

Coherence between emergency and development approaches to break cycle of precariousness

malaria, generally observed in the rainy season, as well as the lack of access to water, hygiene and sanitation services (WASH) are all aggravating factors, which weigh on the nutritional status of populations. The resurgence of epidemics in the Sahel countries in recent years (cholera in Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger and Chad, yellow fever in Nigeria and Mali, measles Nigeria, Burkina Faso and Chad) also contributes very strongly to increased vulnerability among the most exposed populations and increases morbidity and mortality in children under five years of age.

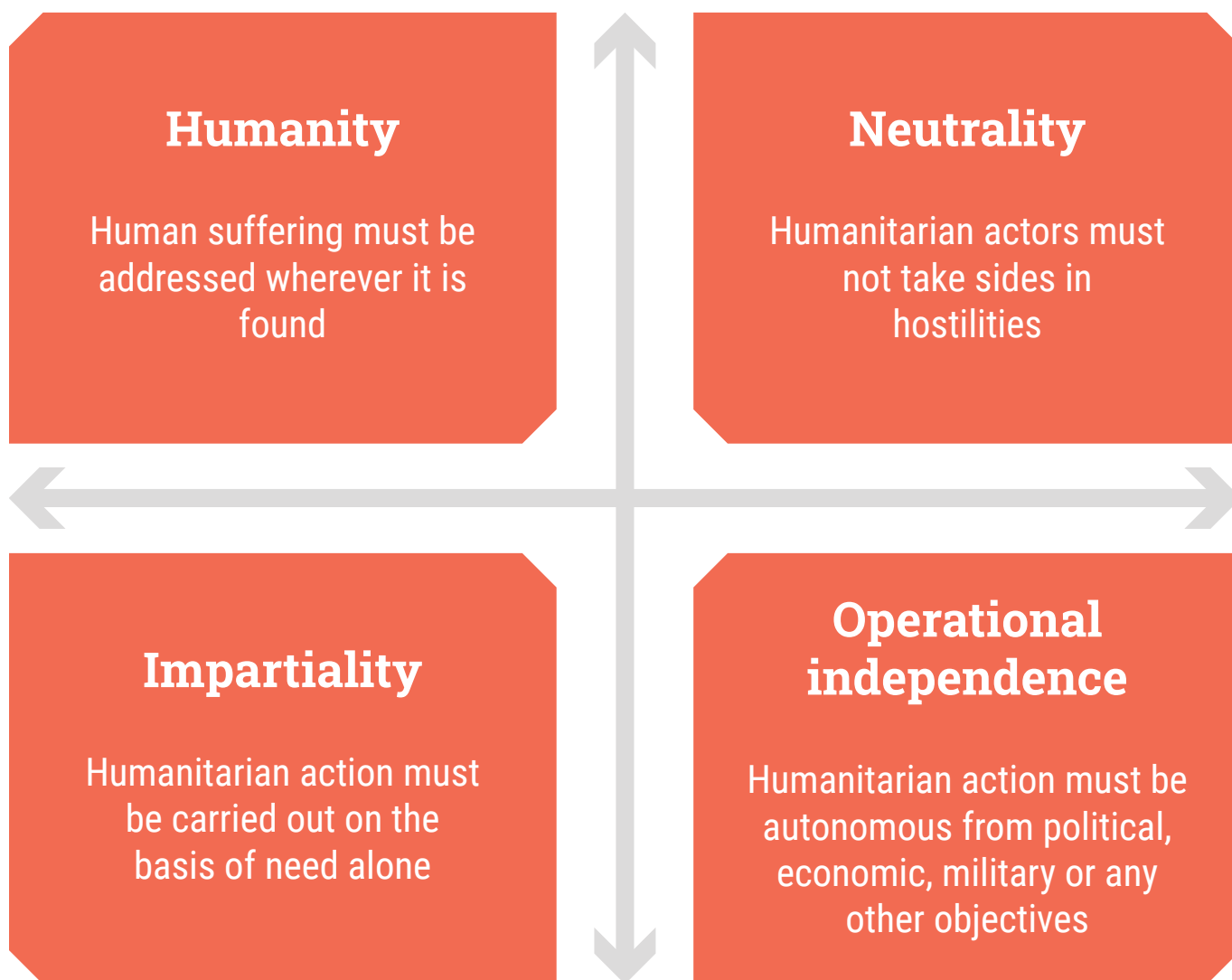
REACHING THE MOST VULNERABLE

Prioritizing the acute malnutrition and food insecurity hotspots and mobilizing for accelerated response will play a key role in saving lives. National systems and social protection networks need to be strengthened through increased and longer-term investments. Efforts to produce knowledge and information through analysis, surveillance, monitoring, assessment, survey and research must be sustained.

Interventions will seek coherence between emergency and development approaches in order to break the cycle of precariousness and address structural causes of hunger and malnutrition. However, given the impact of insecurity and drastic reduction of access, humanitarian response has to prioritize life-saving operations to avoid a catastrophic deterioration for the most vulnerable.

LAC PROVINCE, CHAD
OCHA/Federica Gabellini





PRINCIPLED HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Humanitarian access to people in need in the Sahel has become increasingly difficult, while the number of people affected by multiple crises and shocks is quickly growing.

Militarized response constitutes major risk to humanitarian action

The increasingly militarized and politicized response in the Sahel constitutes a major risk to humanitarian action. While humanitarian agencies and NGOs are actively keeping distance from military actors, it is increasingly hard to work under the principles of neutrality, independence, impartiality and humanity - with all parties to conflict, serving all civilians in need.

Facing a challenging situation on the ground, humanitarian principles must be the main guiding tool. Humanitarian partners call on governments, state and non-state armed groups and all stakeholders in the Sahel to respect international humanitarian law obligations and guarantee a safe access to beneficiaries for life-saving activities.

ACCESS IN A CONTEXT OF INSECURITY

Growing insecurity deeply affects aid operations in the Sahel. Regular attacks on civilians and humanitarian actors have contributed to an increasingly unstable environment. Insecurity has forced the suspension of operations in some locations,

leaving affected communities without access to basic assistance. The use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) has become prevalent and does not discriminate between combatants and civilians.

All must work together to ensure safe access and remove constraints

The protection of humanitarian workers and assets is paramount. Humanitarians have come under attack, been abducted and killed.

However, also in a context of insecurity, armed escorts should only be a 'last resort' as they affect neutrality, impartiality and operational independence, and hamper future aid operations. Acceptance at local level is critical in mitigating risks and accessing populations in need.

In Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, the humanitarian community has limited the use of armed escorts and still maintains basic access to communities in need. In Nigeria, where 13 aid workers have been killed in 2019 alone, humanitarians can mainly access government-controlled areas through military escorts. An estimated 1.2 million people in need in areas beyond Nigerian military control are deprived of life-saving humanitarian aid.

REMOVE ACCESS BARRIERS

Beyond insecurity and limited infrastructure, another important factor impeding access is the challenging administrative environment. Political will to facilitate humanitarian response is a cornerstone to ensuring that aid is delivered in areas that are hard to

AID SECURITY TIMELINE

Armed attack on Rann, Nigeria. Attackers loot and destroy a clinic, warehouses and aid workers' houses.

Three aid workers go missing between the towns of Douentza and Boni, Mali. They are presumed kidnapped.

Gunmen open fire on a vehicle near Tcholori locality in Diffa region, Niger, killing an aid worker and another civilian.

April 17

14 June

2019

19 February

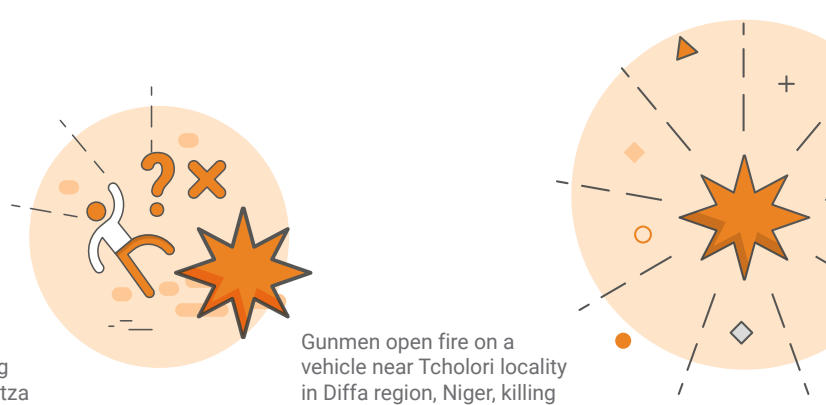
Four aid workers are kidnapped in a vehicle ambush between Kaya and Djibo in Burkina Faso.

7 May

Armed raiders attack Tabareybarey refugee camp in Tillaberi region of Niger. The incident forces humanitarian organizations to suspend missions in the area.

19 July

One aid worker is killed and six are kidnapped in an ambush near the town of Damasak, Nigeria. One hostage is killed on 26 September, for more on 13 December.



reach and sometimes outside government control. Cumbersome bureaucratic processes and restrictive legislation are threatening access to people in need in several countries across the region.

In a context of growing insecurity, all stakeholders must work together to ensure safe access for humanitarians, and remove access constraints.

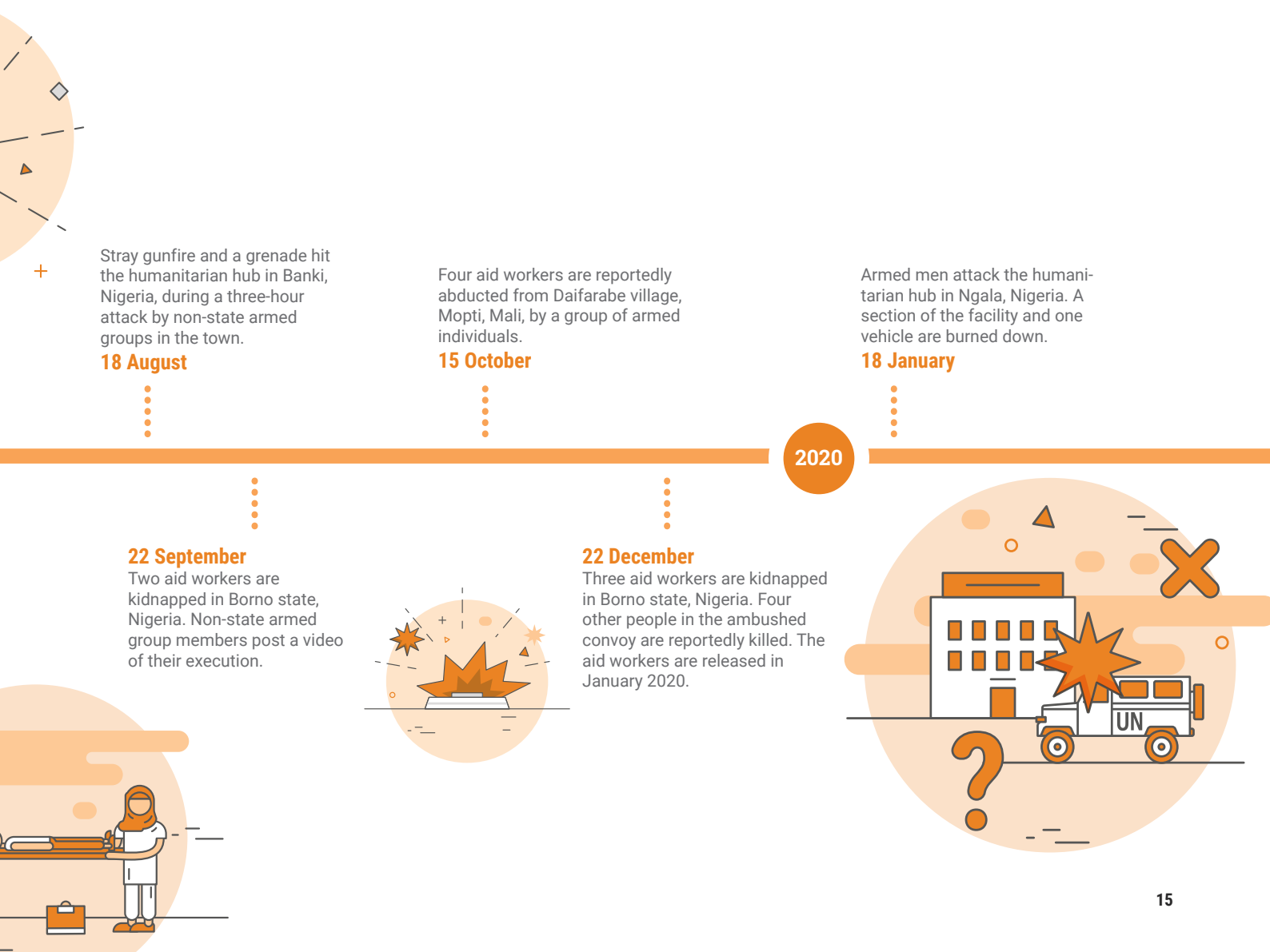
Civilians in need are also facing limited access to basic public services. Massive displacement is causing pressure on already limited services, and conflict is limiting access to services due to restricted freedom of movement. It is vital that access to basic services, a basic right, is ensured for the people of the Sahel. Investment in military assets should not be at the detriment of public services like education or health.

RECORD HIGH OF PEOPLE IN NEED

In 2020, a record high of 24 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection in the Sahel. To bring the response to scale and address the most urgent needs across the region in 2020, humanitarians need a total US\$ 2.8 billion.

Humanitarian partners aim to deliver life-saving assistance and protection across the Sahel assisting 17 million people.

In six countries – Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Mali, Niger and Nigeria – aid organizations and Governments have



developed response plans to provide life-saving assistance and help communities rebuild. In Mauritania and Senegal, aid addresses acute peaks, while preparing the full integration in longer-term strategies. Response strategies, aligned with the UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS), aim to strengthen collaboration with Governments and development actors to provide urgent assistance and tackle the causes of recurrent emergencies.

Strategic priorities include the protection of civilians, access to food, water, sanitation, health and education. Enhanced efforts are required to provide essential services and maintain access to the most vulnerable populations. All activities will promote the safety, dignity and equitable access of affected girls, women, boys and men to humanitarian aid.

Enhanced efforts are required to provide essential services and maintain access to the most vulnerable populations

While aid agencies have rapidly scaled up to respond to needs across the Sahel, their work is severely hampered by the lack of funding. In 2019, the response in the region was only funded at an average 59 per cent.

Sahel response plans are only 18 per cent funded

Four months into 2020, still facing the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and spiraling needs during the lean season, the average funding of the six country response plans in the Sahel stands at 18 per cent. While security budgets across the region are massively increasing, humanitarian funding and development investments are lagging behind. More resources are required to deliver timely and adequate life-saving assistance.

Without a response at scale, the acute humanitarian crisis in the Sahel will continue to escalate, further eroding communities' resilience and putting millions of children, women and men at risk.

We must prioritize humanitarian action in the Sahel.

COVID-19

Potential to wreak havoc

There are 9,140¹ confirmed cases of coronavirus in the eight Sahel countries. Concerns are growing that the situation could be much worse as testing capacities are stretched in many countries. Most governments have imposed a range of prevention and containment measures against the spread.

The pandemic is affecting a region with some of the weakest health systems in the world. The health emergency - a crisis on top of several crises - risks aggravating and creating new needs in zones ravaged by conflict and humanitarian emergencies.

The pandemic could double the number of food insecure households

Previous epidemics in the region, such as Ebola, have shown that beyond the infection itself, people, livelihoods and overall well-being pay a heavy toll.

The closure of markets and imposition of measures such as quarantines and curfews affect livelihoods and access to food. With the closure of schools, many children also no longer have access to feeding programmes. Malnutrition persists

A GLOBAL RESPONSE PLAN

The Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19 (GHRP) gathers the health and multi-sectoral responses to the immediate consequences of the pandemic and the measures taken to contain it. It is the international community's primary fundraising vehicle to support the most vulnerable populations affected by the crisis, including older people, people with disabilities, and women and girls. The

and risks deteriorating during the lean season.

Lockdowns and economic recession may mean a hunger pandemic ahead for millions. It is estimated that in Sahel communities, already facing dramatic spikes of food insecurity, the full socio-economic impact of the pandemic could double the number of households in dire need of food.

The education of more than 66 million children is affected by the precautionary closure of schools. The situation increases the exposure of children to protection risks and child violence, especially for vulnerable internally displaced and refugee children, and children without family.

Women are often the primary caretakers, increasing their potential exposure to the virus. They largely work as informal vendors whose incomes are directly impacted by restrictive measures. Containment and socio-economic stress in vulnerable households increases the risk of violence and exploitation against women and girls, including gender-based violence.

response will enhance protection, secure the continuity and expansion of essential health services, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, risk communication and social cohesion, and food production and consumption.

In the Sahel region, the GHRP covers the six countries that have ongoing humanitarian response plans (HRP): Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria. As

¹ As of 7 May

per the second iteration of the GHRP in May 2020, the financial requirement to respond to the pandemic in the Sahel stands at \$641 million. Out of this, 149 million are aimed at addressing the direct health, and \$492 million the non-health impacts.

This requirement comes in addition to the needs identified in the existing response

SCALING-UP AND SUSTAINING OPERATIONS

Close coordination and linkages between health and humanitarian operations will be crucial to mitigate the multi-sectoral consequences of the pandemic and ensure a coherent and efficient response.

The health response needs to be scaled up, sanitation and hygiene facilities reinforced, and non-health activities adapted and reinforced to help affected populations cope with the direct and indirect impacts of the crisis. It is essential that resources not be diverted from other programmes such as prevention and treatment of malaria, measles, or cholera.

Aid organizations are mobilizing to scale up and sustain life-saving operations across

plans, revised in April 2020. Due to the secondary impacts of COVID-19, it is expected that needs in the Sahel will increase significantly by the end of 2020. If funding is diverted from these operations, the consequences for millions of children, women and men already at greatest risk will be devastating.

the region. Humanitarian programmes are playing a significant role in slowing down the spread of COVID-19. Aid workers are at the forefront of the response in displaced communities - delivering clean water, hygiene kits, healthcare and awareness sessions. Their presence on the ground is essential to support medical personnel in areas of conflict and can protect displaced and host communities from a devastating outbreak. Teams must be able to stay on the ground and access communities to deliver essential assistance to the most vulnerable, adapting their response to ensure that critical support is provided safely, and employing mitigating measures to prevent the spread of the outbreak.

KAYA, BURKINA FASO
WFP/Mahamady Ouedraogo

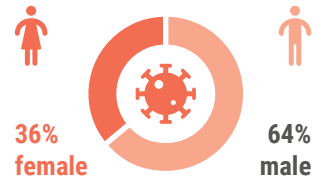
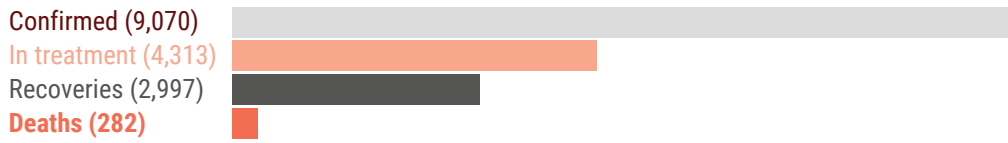


9,070
confirmed cases

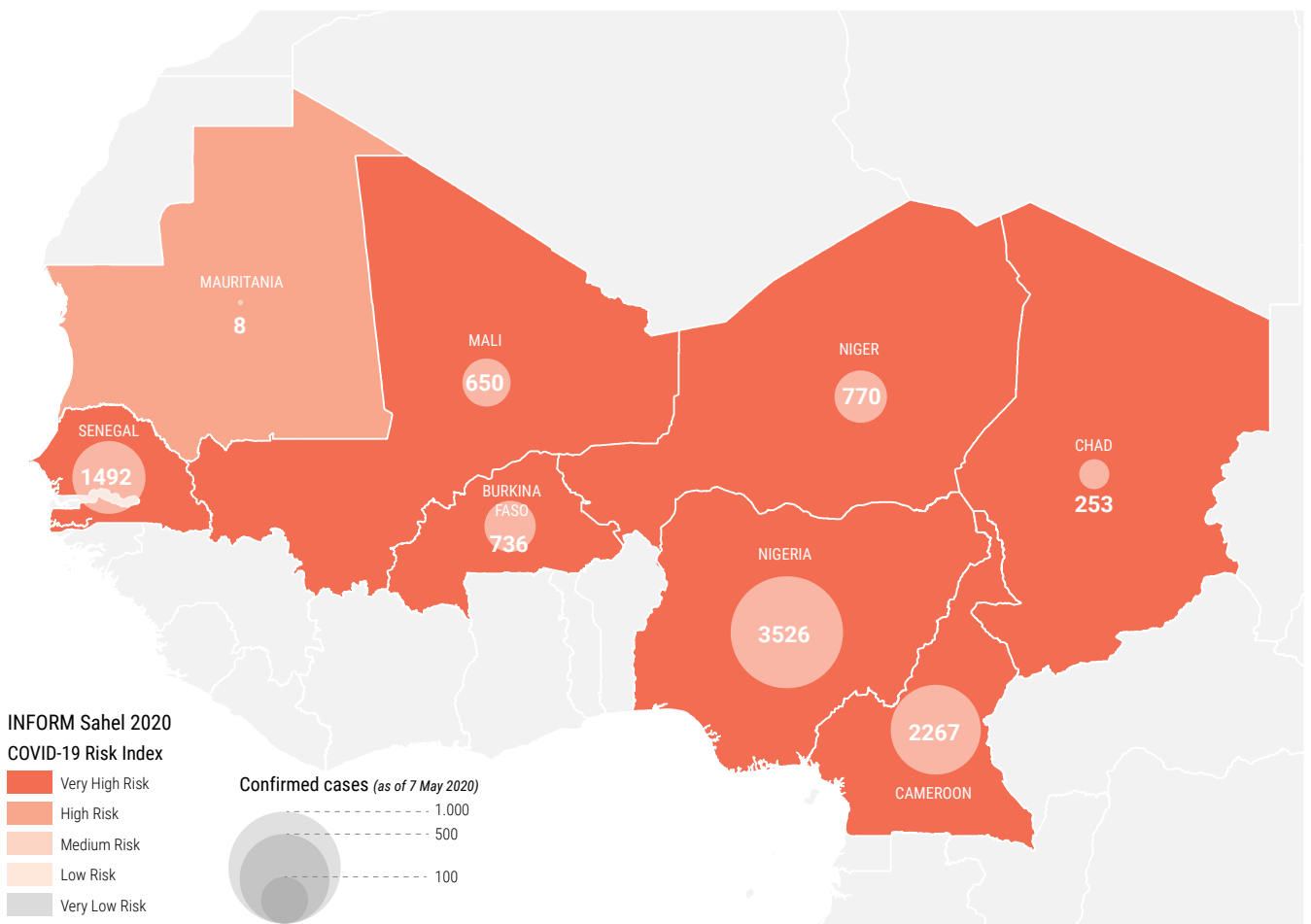
282
deaths

2,997
recoveries

\$638M
requirement

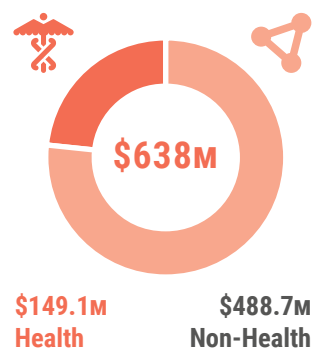
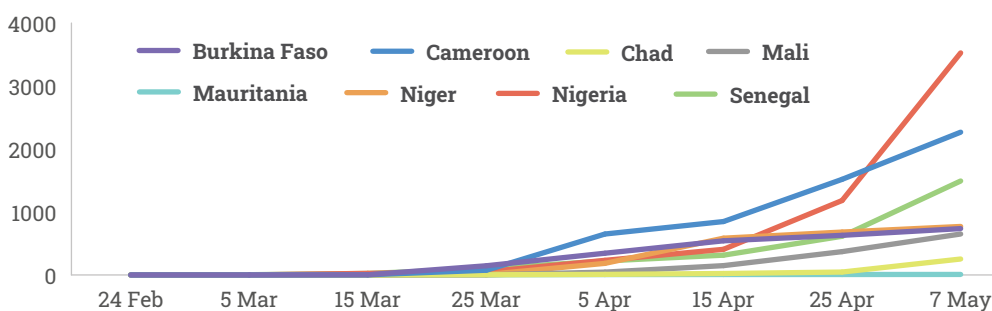


NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES BY COUNTRY



The INFORM COVID-19 Risk Index is a composite index that identifies countries at risk from health and humanitarian impacts of COVID-19 that could overwhelm current national response capacity, and therefore lead to a need for additional international assistance.

NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES OVER TIME



All figures as of May 7 2020

Regional dashboard

\$2.8B

Requirement

\$638M

Covid-19 Requirement

23.6M

People in need

16.9M

People targeted

3.6M

Internally displaced people

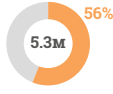
831.6K

Refugees

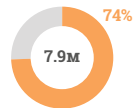


PEOPLE IN NEED & TARGETED

23.6M
people in need



N/A



N/A

16.9M
people targeted

Burkina Faso

Cameroon (Far North)

Chad

Mali

Mauritania

Niger

Nigeria (North-East)

Senegal

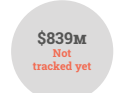


HRP REQUIREMENT & FUNDING

\$2.8B
required



N/A

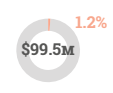


N/A

FTS, as of 9 May. Cameroon requirement and funding for entire country.

COVID-19 REQUIREMENT

\$638M
required



N/A



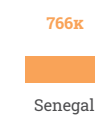
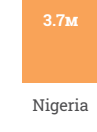
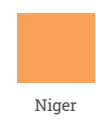
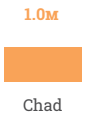
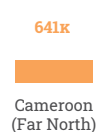
N/A



FOOD SEC.

12.2M
at crisis and emergency level

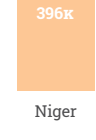
2.1M



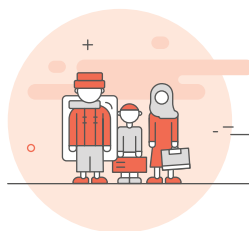
NUTRITION

1.6M
severely malnourished children

156k



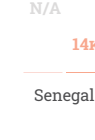
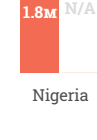
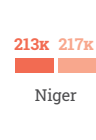
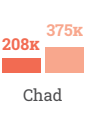
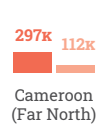
Sources: HNO & HRP, UNICEF



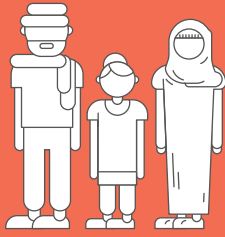
IDPs & REFUGEES

3.6M

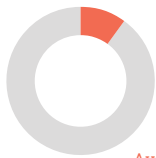
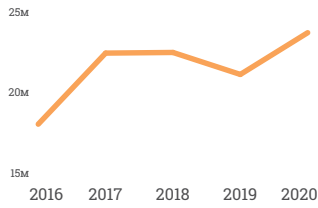
832K



Sources: HNO, HRP, IOM, CCCM, Government - UNHCR



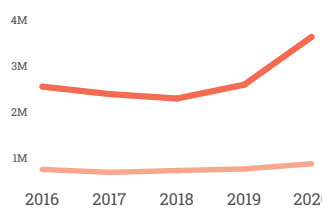
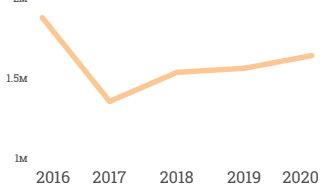
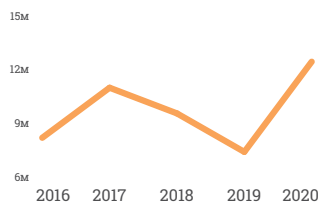
120M
Total population



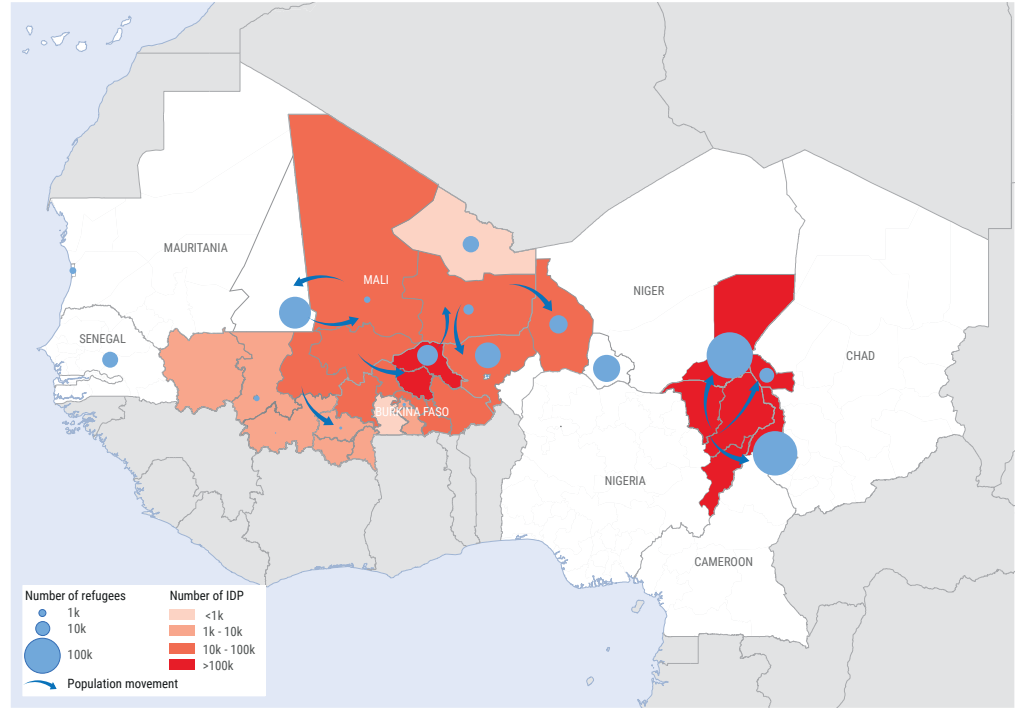
Requirement **\$2.8B** Avg. plan funding **17.5%**



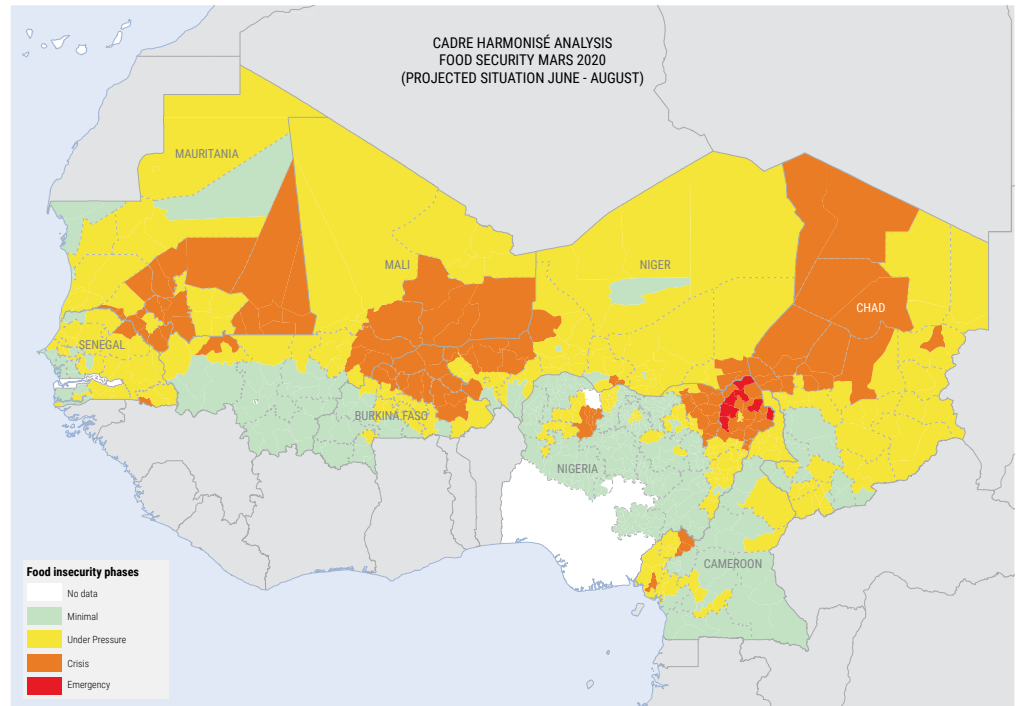
Requirement **\$638m** Avg. plan funding **2.8%**



DISPLACEMENT



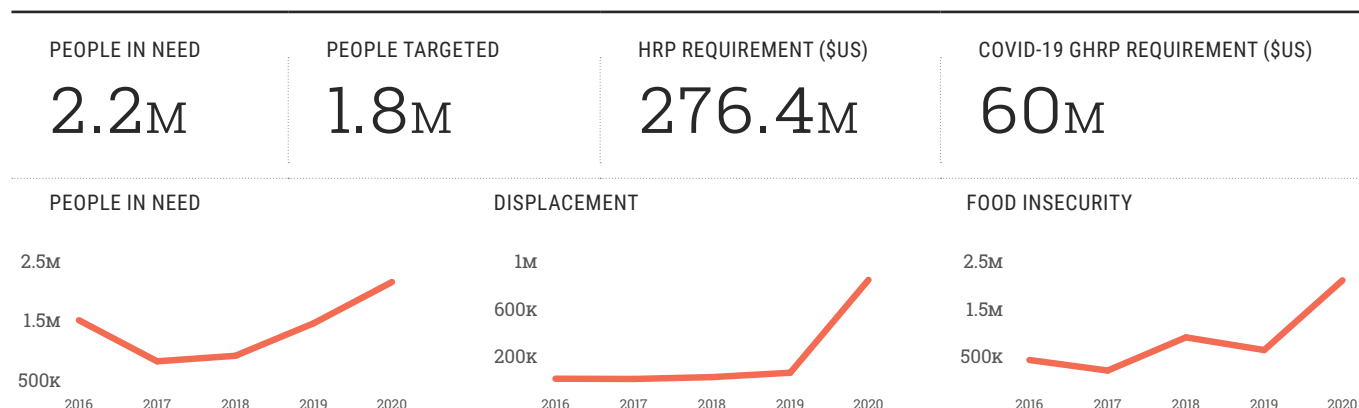
FOOD SECURITY





BOL, CHAD
OCHA/Federica Gabellini

Burkina Faso



The humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso has deteriorated sharply over the past year.

The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance increased from 1.2 million in January 2019 to 2.2 million in January 2020. By the end of March 2020, nearly 840,000 people had been forced to flee their homes as a result of violence. To date, more than 56 per cent of the displaced are homeless or do not have access to adequate shelter.

Burkina Faso is facing a large-scale protection crisis due to spiraling insecurity and erosion of people's access to essential services in the northern and eastern parts of the country, along the borders with Mali and Niger. Attacks by armed groups and rising intercommunal tensions are impacting an expanding portion of the country. A total of 948,000 people need protection.

In areas affected by violence, where livelihoods have been upset by insecurity and displacement, food insecurity has increased dramatically. During the lean season in 2020, 2.2 million people in Burkina Faso will face critical food shortages - three times more than last year.

In 2020, 535,000 under five children are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition in 2020, of which 156,500 of its most severe form. In the zones most affected by insecurity, the nutritional status of the most vulnerable could dramatically worsen.

At the same time, access to basic services amongst affected communities has continued to worsen. As of December 2019, 95 health centres were closed and 135 functioning at minimum capacity, jeopardizing the access of nearly 1.2 million people to basic health care. More than 2,500 schools had to close, depriving 338,000 students of access to education.

In 2019, combined humanitarian and Government efforts helped reach 1.2 million people with urgent assistance, including provision of food aid, therapeutic nutrition, emergency shelter and access to health care, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and protection.

The crisis has a dramatic impact on the affected population, threatening civilians' lives, heightening protection needs, and jeopardizing social cohesion. 2020 will likely be particularly challenging, with planned presidential and legislative elections and increasing challenges in terms of access.

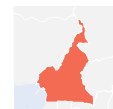
Humanitarian presence needs to be brought to scale quickly to cope with the deteriorating situation and quickly increasing needs. Partners in Burkina Faso work together to step up scope and speed of operations in support of the Government to provide life-saving services and protection to the displaced and other people in need.



Burkina Faso has confirmed 736 cases and 48 deaths, as of 7 May. Ouagadougou remains the epicentre, but nine out of 13 regions are impacted. The further spread in communities affected by the ongoing crisis, particularly the displaced population, could be catastrophic. Quarantine measures announced in March were adjusted and partially relaxed in early May. Land and air borders remain closed and restrictions may further affect supply chains.

Burkina Faso has minimal capacity to hospitalize and manage COVID-19 cases. In the northern and eastern regions, 1.6 million people have limited or no access to healthcare services. The adverse economic impacts will have consequences across all sectors, particularly in areas affected by insecurity and displacement. Increased food insecurity will lead to higher mortality and morbidity. Distance learning remains inaccessible to most children, especially in rural areas and for displaced and refugee children. The pandemic has put vaccination campaigns on hold, which could lead to further outbreaks, including of life-threatening diseases such as measles. Protection concerns are on the rise.

Cameroon (Far North)



PEOPLE IN NEED

994K

PEOPLE TARGETED

780K

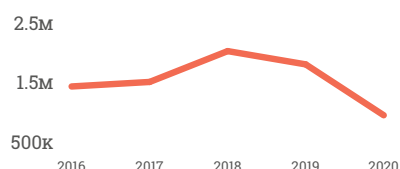
HRP REQUIREMENT (\$US)

292.7M

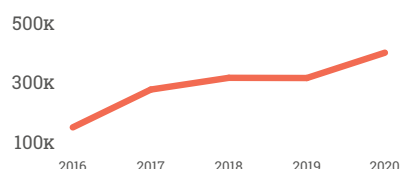
COVID-19 GHRP REQUIREMENT (\$US)

99.6M

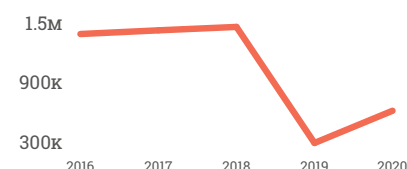
PEOPLE IN NEED



DISPLACEMENT



FOOD INSECURITY



Cameroon's Far North region, geographically part of the Sahel and sharing its specific risks and vulnerabilities, is deeply affected by the Lake Chad Basin emergency. Approximately 1 million people, one in five people in the Far North, need urgent humanitarian assistance. Over 290,000 persons are internally displaced due to the conflict and face significant protection risks. Since 2014, violent attacks by non-state armed groups in north-east Nigeria have also displaced 108,000 Nigerian refugees into Cameroon's Far North. Heightened insecurity and recurrent attacks in the region have left civilians deeply vulnerable to rights abuses and violations.

Life-saving assistance remains crucial to respond to the needs of displaced families and their host communities whose preexisting vulnerabilities have been further exacerbated by these arrivals, the violence and the disruption of livelihoods and basic social services. The Far North is Cameroon's poorest region facing structural and chronic challenges - including food insecurity, weak governance, insufficient basic social services - that aggravate the impact of the crisis and hinder long-term recovery. The disruption of cross-border trade and seasonal migration to Nigeria and Chad has also weakened livelihood opportunities.

Priorities for the humanitarian community in the Far North region include the protection of people who have been forcibly displaced due to violence, and the creation of conditions conducive to durable solutions to displacement, through collaboration with local authorities, communities, and development partners and by

enhancing the participation of the displaced in decision making and programming.

Beyond the Lake Chad Basin crisis, Cameroon also simultaneously faces two other complex crises, severely stretching the response capacity of the authorities and humanitarian partners. The situation in the North-West and South-West regions continues to deteriorate. Close to 680,000 people have been forced to flee their homes in search of safety. Those who could not flee the violence, including elderly people and persons with disabilities, are becoming increasingly vulnerable and live in constant fear. Insecurity and violent attacks continue to hamper access to basic services. There are numerous reports of abuses by all parties, including killings, arbitrary arrests, abductions, torture and inhuman treatment, torching of houses and destruction of villages, and violent attacks on schools and hospitals. Attacks on infrastructure and health personnel, schools, teachers and schoolchildren and their parents continue. In Cameroon's East, over 272,000 vulnerable Central African refugees remain with very little prospect of return.

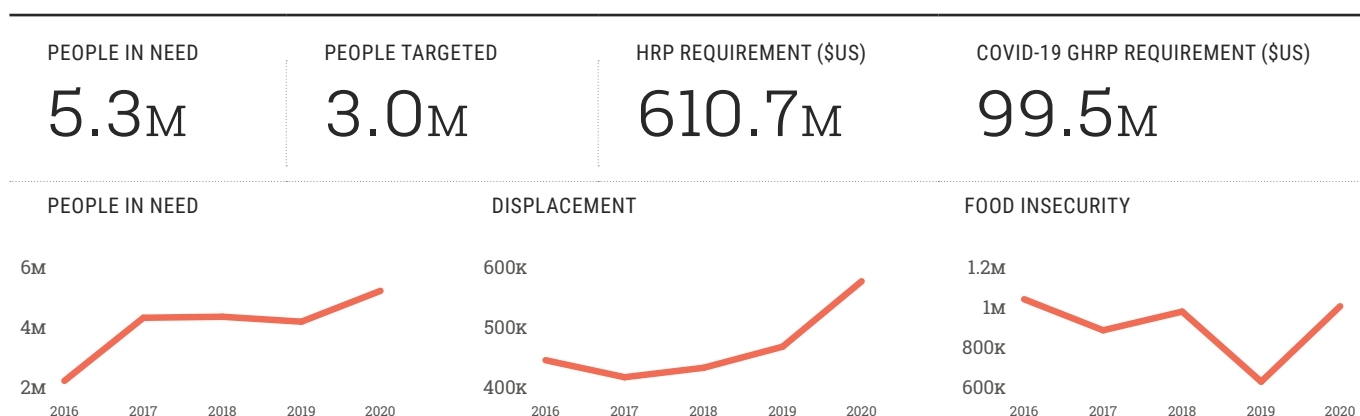
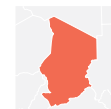
As a result of multiple crises and the upsurge in violence and insecurity, humanitarian needs remain very high across the country. In Cameroon, in 2020, some 3.9 million people need emergency assistance, one in seven people.



As of 7 May, Cameroon had confirmed 2,267 cases and 108 deaths. The government has developed a preparedness plan, including active surveillance at points of entry, in-country diagnostic capacity at the national reference laboratory, and designated isolation and treatment centers. Land, air and sea borders are closed.

Ongoing transmission is placing a massive strain on a health-care system already overwhelmed by lack of capacity and ongoing disease outbreaks. Nine out of ten regions are affected by the pandemic including the South West and North West. People in the provinces affected by humanitarian crises face significant difficulties in accessing essential services, including health and food. The situation is expected to worsen due to the strain on the weakened health system and decreased coping strategies.

Chad



In Chad, the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate, owing to multidimensional crises affecting several parts of the country. In 2020, 5.3 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, an increase of more than 23 per cent compared to 2019. Among these people, 3 million are targeted by the humanitarian community for assistance, an increase of 50 per cent compared to last year.

In 2019, political, military, socioeconomic and climatic developments contributed to an increasingly fragile environment across the country. The security situation deteriorated, with a sharp increase in attacks by non-state armed groups and intercommunal conflict. A resurgence of armed attacks in the Lake Chad basin continues to drive thousands of civilians to flee their homes. Some 230,000 Chadians are internally displaced due to violence perpetrated by armed groups. Deadly attacks against the Chadian army in March 2020 have resulted in new displacement of up to 30,000 people.

In addition, Chad continues to host more than 358,000 refugees from Sudan and more than 92,000 refugees from the Central African Republic, unable to return home. Heavy rains and flooding destroyed infrastructure, property and crops, with immediate and potential impacts on livelihoods. Climate change, low investment in the agricultural sector and crop pests and diseases continue to drive food insecurity. The number of severely malnourished

children and food-insecure people, compared to last year, is up by 28 and 59 per cent, respectively. Malnutrition prevalence is above emergency thresholds in 18 of the country's 23 provinces. WASH infrastructure has been steadily deteriorating for years, exposing thousands to disease. Structural development challenges and chronic poverty exacerbate the vulnerabilities of populations.

The health system remains weak, exposing the country to epidemic risks and diseases such as cholera, measles and malaria, the leading cause of death for children under five. The measles epidemic, with an increasing number of cases, is an aggravating factor for acute malnutrition in children under five years of age. As of 19 April, the health authorities had recorded 7,412 suspected cases of measles, including 36 deaths, since the beginning of 2020. The cross-border cholera epidemic between Cameroon and Chad has been rife in two health areas (Mbourao, Youé) in the province of Mayo Kebbi Est since July 11 with 24 confirmed cases including one death.

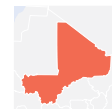
Humanitarian emergencies in the dynamic regional context evolve fast, such as the new influx of people from Sudan in early 2020, new displacement and military operations in Lake Province, and the potential impact of Covid-19, and the effects of droughts and floods. To ensure a proactive approach to humanitarian crises, preparedness and response capacities in support of the Government need further strengthening.



As of 7 May, Chad had registered 253 cases and 27 deaths. The health status of the population is a major concern, particularly among the oldest population, people with underlying conditions and women whose access to health services remains dependent on social and cultural norms. There is widespread malaria and an ongoing measles epidemic. Vaccinations are impacted by restrictions on movement and large gatherings. Major challenges pertain to limited, poorly equipped and under-staffed health facilities, even in the capital.

Chad anticipates significant deterioration in nutritional status as it enters the lean season. The closure of schools impacts on both essential education and nutritional support for 3 million children. Containment measures have significantly restricted the protection space and exacerbated the vulnerabilities of forcibly displaced persons.

Mali



PEOPLE IN NEED

4.3M

PEOPLE TARGETED

3.6M

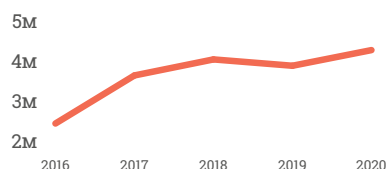
HRP REQUIREMENT (\$US)

350.9M

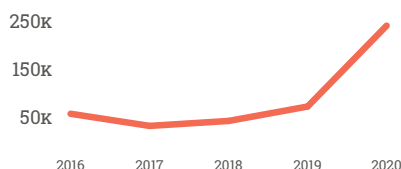
COVID-19 GHRP REQUIREMENT (\$US)

42.3M

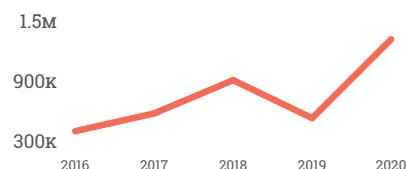
PEOPLE IN NEED



DISPLACEMENT



FOOD INSECURITY



The crisis in Mali continues to worsen. Violence and insecurity have spread from the north to the central regions and across the border into Niger and Burkina Faso. While instability in the north is mainly driven by an armed insurgency, the central regions are experiencing a rise in social unrest, banditry, and intercommunal violence. Communities face increasing attacks and insecurity is disrupting basic social services - including schools and health centers - many of which are forced to shut down. Intercommunity conflict, armed attacks and other forms of violence could further escalate, causing more displacement. Among the estimated 8.2 million people affected by the crisis in Mali, 4.3 million people will need humanitarian assistance in 2020.

Growing instability has led to a new surge in internal displacement. In all, close to 220,000 are displaced within the country, almost three times more than in early 2019.

The absence or poor availability of social services, particularly in conflict-affected areas, deepens vulnerability and creates protection risks. Displaced communities are at particular risk of sexual or gender-based violence and family separation. Some 1.4 million people do not have sufficient access to water, hygiene and sanitation services. Tensions around water sources are frequent. In addition, Mali remains highly vulnerable to climate shocks such as droughts and floods, weighing on people's access to basic social services.

Food insecurity is rising. One in five people are currently food insecure. Some 2.3 million people need emergency assistance. Conflict accentuates food shortages, as families are uprooted from their homes and livelihoods upended. Heavy rains in July and August 2019 also caused significant damages to crops, equipment, housing, grain stores and livestock. During the 2020 lean season, 1.3 million people will face crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity.

Food insecurity could jeopardize the gains that Mali obtained in the nutrition realm with a decrease in the national prevalence of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in 2019. Around 166,000 Malian children are expected to be affected by SAM in 2020 while an estimated 1.2 million people are exposed to the risk of water-borne epidemic diseases. In some areas, risk of floods or drought could exacerbate the situation since climate shocks have deteriorated access to clean water in Mali.

The issue of access has been complicating the work of humanitarian actors in Mali due to the deterioration of security conditions. Women, children and individuals with specific needs, such as people living with disabilities, are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of the crisis. Men and boys, who make up the majority of civilian casualties, will continue to be at risk of being targeted in violent attacks. Armed conflict is disrupting access to basic social services and exacerbating gender-based violence.



As of 7 May, Mali had recorded 650 cases of COVID-19 and 32 deaths. Schools and universities remain closed, larger gatherings are banned, and a nightly curfew is in place. The weakened health system will not be able to cope with an increase of cases. In conflict-affected areas, 23 per cent of facilities are not functioning, the remaining are without required equipment and treatment capacity.

As COVID-19 spreads, resources are being diverted from basic healthcare and other health emergencies. Vaccinations and primary healthcare, including related to malnutrition, are likely to be severely impacted. Risk of widespread contamination is high in crowded places where vulnerable people gather, such as IDP sites. The situation may increase inter-community clashes over access to services, food or medical supplies.

Niger



PEOPLE IN NEED

2.9M

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.8M

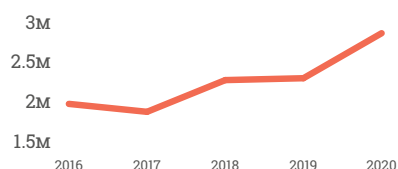
HRP REQUIREMENT (\$US)

433.3M

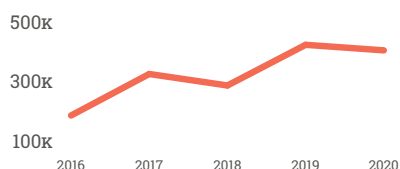
COVID-19 GHRP REQUIREMENT (\$US)

76.6M

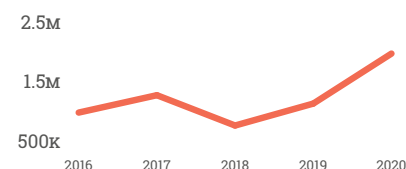
PEOPLE IN NEED



DISPLACEMENT



FOOD INSECURITY



Niger remains extremely vulnerable to a multitude of shocks and natural disasters. Climate change, chronic food insecurity and malnutrition and demographic pressures compound entrenched poverty, resulting in recurring humanitarian crises. Armed violence by non-state armed groups in neighbouring countries is spilling over, and insecurity and attacks are severely disrupting essential social services and jeopardizing national development efforts.

In 2020, the humanitarian situation in Tahoua and Tillaberi took a significant turn for the worse, and the situation in Diffa remained highly insecure and volatile. Attacks and threats by non-state armed groups, banditry, inter-ethnic violence and subsequent military operations by Government forces led to significant displacement.

As of October 2019, at least 400,000 people had been forced to flee their homes and are living in vulnerable conditions across the country. This includes some 109,000 IDPs and 120,000 Nigerian refugees in Diffa, 55,000 IDPs and 34,000 Malian refugees in Tillaberi and 42,000 Nigerian refugees in Maradi. As a result of the state of emergency declared in these three regions and military operations against armed groups, humanitarian

access is limited in some locations and people's access to markets, education, essential services and livelihoods has been disrupted. Despite challenging conditions, as of September 2019 humanitarian organizations had delivered food and/or cash assistance to 950,000 people, delivered safe drinking water to more than 583,000 people, and provided access to protection services to 275,000 people in affected areas.

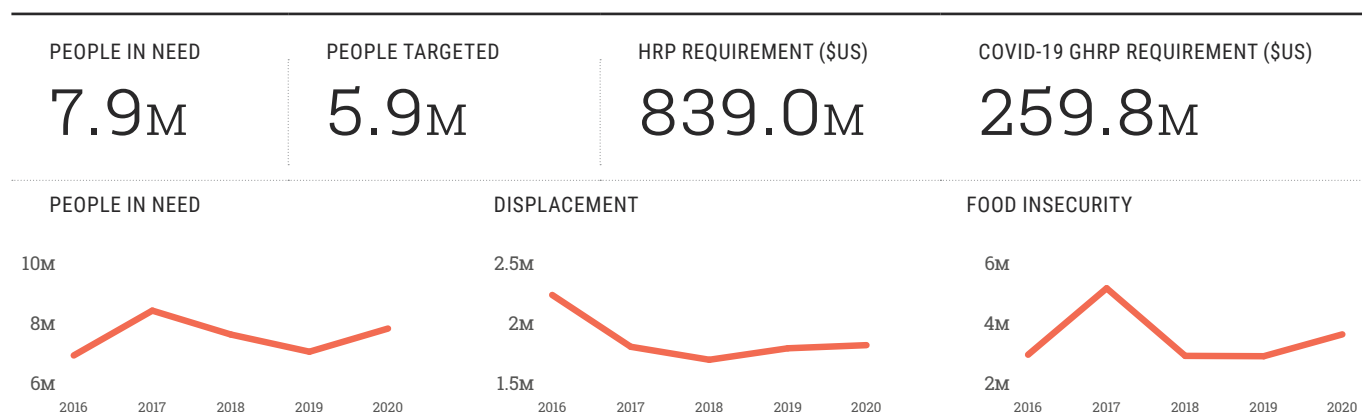
In 2020, more than 1.2 million children still suffer from acute malnutrition, including nearly 400,000 of its most severe form. Structural vulnerabilities in Niger are unlikely to improve significantly. People will remain vulnerable to climate shocks such as droughts and floods, as well as malnutrition, food insecurity and disease outbreaks. Resilience programming, including further investment in prevention and capacity-building, is critical to reduce the vulnerability of people and communities and better respond to the root causes of these crises. Armed conflicts in Burkina Faso, Mali and Nigeria continue to result in instability and forced displacements in border areas. As a consequence of insecurity, humanitarian organizations in Niger have faced increased access constraints, affecting their ability to respond to affected people's needs, in particular in Tahoua and Tillaberi.



As of 7 May, Niger had registered 770 cases and 38 deaths. The government has declared a health emergency and developed an emergency response plan. Containment measures ban gatherings, borders are closed except for cargo. Of the five regions affected, Niamey is at the epicentre (94% of cases).

The pandemic hits an already fragile health system. In Tillaberi, Tahoua, Diffa and Maradi, access to healthcare, already difficult due to the state of emergency and insecurity, is even more constrained, particularly for IDPs. Confined and overcrowded living conditions are putting the displaced at additional risk. Worsening food insecurity, pressure on coping mechanisms and the deterioration of preventive services threaten to increase malnutrition. With schools closed, children are increasingly facing protection risks and may lose education gains.

Nigeria (North-East)



The humanitarian emergency in the states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe, in Nigeria's north-east, remains one of the largest crises across the globe. In 2020, 7.9 million people will need emergency assistance. Over 1.8 million people, across the three crisis-affected states are still living in camps or are hosted in other communities, that are themselves becoming extremely vulnerable.

The past year has been characterized by waves of displacements caused by insecurity, increasing attacks by non-state armed groups (NSAGs) and military operations, resulting in a significant increase in humanitarian needs and protection risks. Borno State has seen an upsurge in violent attacks and an increasing trend of illegal checkpoints on major supply and commercial routes directly targeting civilians, authorities and aid workers.

The food security situation has drastically deteriorated. 2.9 million people are food insecure across the three States. The figure is projected to rise to 3.7 million people by the June – August lean season if adequate food and livelihoods assistance is not provided.

In 2019, access to people in need became increasingly difficult. For the first time since 2016, the humanitarian space in Nigeria is shrinking. De facto, humanitarian actors and provision of aid are largely confined to major cities and towns. 1.2 million people in need remain cut off from humanitarian aid in hard-to-reach areas.

Humanitarian actors have also become the direct target of violent attacks. A total of 13 aid workers lost their lives in 2019. Kidnappings have also increased. Two women aid workers are still held in captivity by non-state armed groups and three other humanitarian staff are still missing.

In a complex and volatile security environment, the United Nations and NGO partners, in collaboration with local and national authorities in Nigeria, have delivered urgent support and basic services to over 5.2 million people in 2019, in the crisis-affected states.

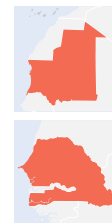


As of 7 May, Nigeria recorded a total of 3,526 cases and 107 deaths. Borno State has recorded 116 confirmed cases. With limited capacity and pace of testing, cases could be seriously underestimated.

Nearly all States have ordered partial lockdowns and restriction of movements, including in the North-East. IDPs are at high risk due to extreme congestion in camps making physical distancing measures practically impossible. A tightening of pre-existing restrictions, economic deterioration coupled with strained public services will further increase needs and compound existing operational challenges. A disruption to supply chains could severely hamper the capacity of humanitarian actors to assist affected communities.

There has been a significant disruption of vaccination campaigns and other essential health services for children and other vulnerable groups. The effects of the crisis will increase dependency on food assistance, expanding the current humanitarian burden across the north-eastern States and beyond. Food consumption is expected to deteriorate further as vulnerable households approach the peak lean season.

PASTORAL CRISIS: Mauritania & Senegal



Both Mauritania and Senegal have faced recurrent and acute climate shocks since 2012. Erratic rainfalls and severe droughts are impacting local food production and livestock management, causing food insecurity and malnutrition.

In 2020, the situation is particularly preoccupying. Rainfall deficit has severely affected biomass production in northern Senegal and southern Mauritania, pressuring on livestock, food and nutrition security.

Around 1.4 million people are likely to struggle with severe food insecurity between June and August at the height of the lean season. The most affected regions are located in the valley of the Senegal river, which could face cross-border population movements - particularly of pastoral communities during the transhumance period.

Mauritania hosts around 57,000 Malian refugees in highly food insecure regions. They are particularly vulnerable and risk facing additional humanitarian stress. Due to persistent insecurity in

Mali, they are not likely to return soon and require sustained humanitarian assistance.

The general food insecurity is likely to weigh on the nutritional status of children under five in both Senegal and Mauritania, two countries chronically affected by nutrition insecurity. In Senegal, according to the latest results from national nutritional surveys (SMART) conducted in 2019, the situation is worrying with a national prevalence rate of severe acute malnutrition of 2.1 per cent, above emergency thresholds. In Mauritania, severe acute malnutrition has a prevalence of 1.8 per cent.

2019 was also marked by flood episodes in the south of Mauritania and in Senegal, especially in Guidimakha. In the Mauritanian city of Sélibabi, more than 5,000 households were affected by heavy rains that destroyed their housing, as well as their livestock and food stocks. Dakar and Kaolack, in central and southern Senegal, were also hit by floods in September. Both situations required immediate and mid-term response to assist affected households.



Senegal has recorded 1,492 cases and 13 deaths, as of 7 May. The government has declared a state of emergency, banned inter-regional travel, and imposed a nightly curfew. Authorities have ordered food items for one million households, half the country's population, whose means of consumption, nutrition and livelihood are impacted by the epidemic.

Mauritania has registered 8 cases and one death. A nightly curfew is in place and traffic between the thirteen regions banned. The livelihoods of urban refugees who mostly work in the informal sector are at particular risk.

What if? ... We fail to respond

If humanitarians are not able to raise funds and deliver aid for the Sahel crisis...



1

24 million Sahelians risk being cut-off from life-saving assistance and face deepening vulnerabilities.



More than 4 million displaced people will struggle to survive, facing violence, abuse and exploitation.

2

3

The number of people facing acute food insecurity will increase. The **food security status of 12 million people will further degrade** without assistance



4

More than 1.6 million acutely malnourished children will not receive treatment. If untreated, many could die or suffer lifelong mental and physical damage, undermining their learning and development.

Millions of people will not have adequate access to water, hygiene and basic sanitation, increasing transmission risks.



5

In addition to the spread of COVID-19, **the risks of outbreaks of communicable diseases for millions** without access to adequate water, sanitation and hygiene will grow.

6

7

Healthcare resources will dwindle and diseases such as diarrhea, pneumonia, malaria, measles and cholera will thrive.



Millions of people across the Sahel will be left without support to help them sustain their livelihoods, in turn leading to severe coping strategies.

8



Millions of children out of school both due to COVID-19 and to violence and displacement will remain idle and exposed to risk of abduction, enslavement, and forced recruitment.

9

10

Inadequate shelter and congested living conditions will expose families to multiple risks.



11

Communities struck by droughts, floods, and other climate disasters will not be able to cope with shocks and loss of livelihood, intensifying conflict risks.



Millions of people will be at heightened protection risks related to displacement, mines, gender-based violence and grave violations against children.

12



13

The COVID-19 health emergency risks undermining efforts to reduce suffering, aggravating and creating new needs in zones already ravaged by conflict and food insecurity.

