In 2022, WHO worked closely with the Government of Niger, partners, and other stakeholders to address major challenges in the country’s health sector. That collaboration yielded significant progress in terms of filling gaps in the general health system and in preparedness, prevention and response to health emergencies caused by outbreaks, natural disasters and insecurity in several regions of the country.

WHO’s interventions in Niger continued to be guided by the four pillars of its Thirteenth General Programme of Work, 2019–2023/25 (GPW 13), namely: (1) universal health coverage; (2) preparedness, prevention and response to health emergencies; (3) promotion of health and well-being; and (4) country support.

**Universal health coverage (UHC)**

Health system strengthening:
- effective implementation of the National UHC Strategy and operationalization of the National Institute for Medical Assistance
- establishment of the National Medicines Regulatory Agency
- reduced rate of stockouts of essential medicines at integrated health centres (IHC) from 9.03% in 2020 and 5.77% in 2021 to 3.70% in the third quarter of 2022
- capacity building of 139 actors from the health sector and civil society on the promotion of blood donation, and the committee of experts on the evaluation of medicine dossiers.

**Maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and ageing**

- 39% of antenatal clients received a fourth antenatal care visit
- 299,586 postpartum women who gave birth in a health facility initiated a contraceptive method before being discharged
- 615,708 newborns received postnatal care
- awareness-raising was conducted for 20,842 teenagers and young persons on sexual and reproductive health.

**Routine vaccination**

- 1,011,821 children received the complete dose of the pentavalent vaccine (Penta-3), which represented an increase of 41,257 more children compared to 2021
- 771,172 children received the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV1).

**Malaria**

- long-lasting insecticidal nets were distributed to 16,826,225 people at risk
- More than 4 million children under 5 years of age benefitted from seasonal malaria chemoprevention.
**Tuberculosis (TB)/HIV/hepatitis**

- 14,534 new tuberculosis cases were detected, up from 10,072 cases in 2021, with a treatment success rate of 85.5% compared to 84.9% in 2021.
- 137 new sites offering antiretroviral treatment and 137 new “one-stop” TB/HIV treatment counters were set up, bringing the total numbers to 315 and 263, respectively.

**Noncommunicable diseases**

- Screening services for breast and cervical cancer were provided free of charge to 3000 women.
- Awareness-raising was conducted for 714,405 people on noncommunicable diseases including cancers.
- 3272 cases of hypertension and 910 cases of diabetes received treatment.
- Over 1000 students were given awareness talks on mental health.
- More than 100 people benefitted from free mental health consultations, services and advice.

**Neglected tropical diseases (NTD)**

- A total of 6,799,483 people received treatment for various neglected tropical diseases.
- No case of guinea-worm disease was confirmed among the 17 rumoured cases notified and investigated within 24 hours.

**Preparedness, prevention and response to health emergencies**

**Service delivery to vulnerable populations**

- Awareness-raising was conducted for 34,475 people in hard-to-reach areas on making use of health services.
- Various health services were provided to 409,356 people in hard-to-reach areas.

**COVID-19 pandemic**

- 100,277 COVID-19 tests were performed overall; 2099 cases of COVID-19 were reported, including 40 deaths, with a case fatality rate of 1.9%.
- 4,701,286 people (19% of the total population) received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 3,583,472 people (15% of the total population) were fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
**Polio eradication**

- the rate of acute flaccid paralysis rose from **5.2** children under 5 years of age in 2021 to **7.9** children
- the stool adequacy rate surged to **89%** at the national level compared to **83%** in 2021
- **9 million** children between 0 to 59 months of age were vaccinated against polio during various campaigns.

**Other outbreaks:**

- **1 877 613** people were vaccinated against cholera during the first round of the cholera response campaign and **1 914 669** people were vaccinated during the second round, with a coverage rate of **95%** and **96.4%** respectively
- **990 839** children were vaccinated against measles during a reactive campaign across nine districts, accounting for **99.8%** of the **992 259** children targeted
- **1 058 337** people between 9 months and 60 years of age were vaccinated against yellow fever, accounting for **95.2%** of the **1 111 811** individuals targeted
- **584 467** people aged between 1 and 29 years were vaccinated against meningitis
- **22 131** children aged between 1 and 14 years were vaccinated against diphtheria.

**Promotion of health and well-being**

**Health determinants**

- the prevalence of global acute malnutrition dropped from **12.5%** in 2021 to **12.2%** in 2022
- over **10 000** young persons benefitted from awareness talks on the harmful effects of tobacco on health
- the excise tax on cigarettes was raised from **50%** to **60%** (Finance Law 2023).

**WASH in health care facilities**

- the proportion of integrated health centres with access to drinking water facilities increased from **34.64%** in 2021 to **56.6%** in 2022
- the proportion of integrated health centres with separate latrines rose from **14.98%** in 2021 to **52.1%** in 2022
- **71.8%** of IHCs used a waste incinerator.

**Infection prevention and control (IPC)**

- no health worker was newly infected from infectious diseases
- the number of health facilities with satisfactory IPC performance (of over **75%**) rose from **7** in 2021 to **23** in 2022.
Country support

- implementation of the National eHealth Strategy 2019–2023
- development of a road map for the implementation of the National Health Observatory
- strengthening of governance and leadership through a new health sector coordination mechanism which has been integrated into the Health and Social Development Plan 2022–2026, and increased collaboration with United Nations agencies and non-State actors
- strengthening of gender mainstreaming and prevention and response to sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (PRSEAH).

Financing of WHO

- The total budget allocated to WHO Niger for the biennium 2022–2023 was US$ 37 621 746, with US$ 30 849 832 or 82% already funded in 2022, the first year of the biennium. Total expenditure for 2022 amounted to US$ 24 790 415, reaching a budget execution rate of 80%.
- Of the US$ 30 849 832 available for 2022, US$ 7 607 055 was raised at the country level, representing 25% of all currently available resources as of end-2022.
- In 2022, WHO Niger received contributions from 24 donors, the major ones being: the United States of America, Canada, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Germany, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Japan, the Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Luxembourg.

WHO Niger expresses its gratitude to all donors for their trust and collaboration.