



Reporting Period: 24 April – 16 May 2020

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# Somalia

## COVID-19

### Situation Report No. 3

## Highlights

- In Somalia, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases has reached 1,284 with 53 deaths as of 16 May 2020, which marks 60 days since the country has reported its first confirmed case.
- The number of children under the age of five admitted for Severe Acute Malnutrition treatment has declined by 5,173 (22 per cent) in April; measles vaccination coverage has also shown a reduction of 6.6 percent in April compared to the previous month's coverage. UNICEF is closely following up on the secondary impacts of COVID-19 on children and women's access to essential lifesaving services for further advocacy and support measures.
- UNICEF continues scaling up its COVID-19 response through WASH interventions. UNICEF has reached 559,747 people across Somalia with critical WASH supplies since the advent of the pandemic. This includes 310,800 people reached with hygiene kits and emergency water supply over the last two weeks.
- Spots were broadcast on 21 radio stations throughout the country reaching an estimated population of 10 million people. 25,000 posters on COVID-19 prevention were disseminated in Mogadishu and over 30 billboards installed across the country.

## Funding Overview

As of 16 May 2020, UNICEF's COVID-19 appeal funding gap remains steady at 91 per cent from the required \$27.8 Million. Existing funds have been reprogrammed, addressing 0.7% of the funding gap. Discussions continued with OFDA, CERF Secretariat, DFID, ECHO, Global Affairs Canada, Japan and KFW (Germany) towards new contributions and/or reprogramming of existing grants.

As needs continue to grow, UNICEF Somalia welcomes predictable and flexible funding to respond effectively and efficiently to the COVID-19 crisis and ensure lifesaving programmes for the ongoing humanity's needs.

## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Need

The Ministry of Health data shows that 1,284 people across Somalia are confirmed to have COVID-19 virus and 53 people have now died. 135 people have recovered from the virus. The case fatality rate is 4.1 per

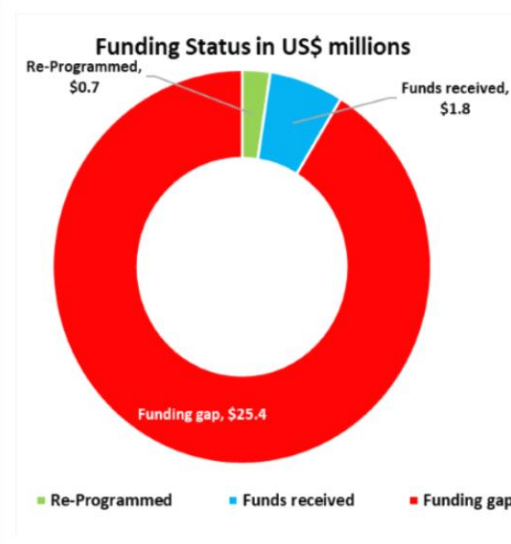
## Situation in Numbers

**1,284** Confirmed cases in Somalia

**53** Deaths

(Ministry of Health, 16 May 2020)

**US \$ 27.8 Million** needed to implement UNICEF's response



cent. Most of the people that tested positive have no travel history. Cases are expected to increase rapidly over the weeks ahead as community transmission escalates, creating a devastating implication on children and women's access to essential lifesaving services.

To date, WHO reported that children accounted less than 4.5 percent of the total reported COVID-19 cases in Somalia. Though the direct medical impact of COVID-19 on children has been minimal, children have been the victims of the secondary impacts of the pandemic that resulted from COVID-19 mitigation measures.

The number of children under the age of five admitted for Severe Acute Malnutrition treatment declined by 5,173 (22 per cent) in April; measles vaccination coverage also showed a reduction of 6.6 percent in April compared to the previous month's coverage and UNICEF is working to further analyze the contributing factors to these reductions.

Notably, frontline workers are faced with fear of infection from COVID-19 and some facilities have been closed pending provision of personal protective equipment (PPE). A significant proportion of medical staff are at risk of contamination, and if health workers are infected, this has a knock-on impact for the entire health system of the country.

UNICEF is closely following up on the delivery of PPEs that have already been procured; UNICEF has also scaled up its COVID-19 response to support the efforts of the Government and other partners as poor access to health care, limited access to water and sanitation and high rates of malnutrition are all additional complicating factors for Somalia.

## Coordination and Partnerships

UNICEF continues to contribute to the overall UN leadership in the COVID-19 response through existing platforms such as the UN Country Management Team, Humanitarian Country Team, Security Management Team. UNICEF is also using its cluster leadership role as a platform to enhance coordination in key intervention areas relevant to both COVID-19 preparedness and response. UNICEF is actively participating in the coordination meetings led by the Ministries of Health with support from WHO, such as the UN COVID-19 Taskforce, while co-leading the RCCE Taskforce.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Risk Communication and Community Engagement

UNICEF continued supporting the country's COVID-19 risk communication and community engagement interventions through combination of media and interpersonal communication channels focusing on COVID-19 prevention messaging.

Radio spots highlighting COVID-19 prevention measures aired on 21 radio stations throughout the country, reaching an estimated 10 million people. 25,000 posters on COVID-19 prevention were disseminated in Mogadishu, and over 30 billboards installed across the country. Two TV talk shows were carried out to increase public awareness on COVID-19 prevention and control, and to discourage rumors and stigma associated with COVID-19.

A joint (MOH/UNICEF) press release published to increase the public's awareness on COVID-19. A story highlighting house to house mobilization entitled, "In the frontlines of combating COVID-19: A day in the life of a community social mobilizer" has also been published.

### Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and WASH

UNICEF has reached 559,747 people across Somalia with critical WASH supplies since March 2020. This includes 310,800 additional people reached during the last two weeks. In South-Central Somalia and Somaliland, 256,800 and 54,000 people, respectively, received hygiene kits. Another 150,000 people were reached with hygiene promotion that included house-to-house visits and mass media through local radios where COVID-19 was central in messaging. Emergency water through chlorinated water trucking continued for 80,000 people in Bay and Lower Shabelle regions.

In Puntland, 31 health facilities were provided with WASH Infection Prevention supplies that included one carton of soap, one drum of chlorine and six buckets. UNICEF also conducted a webinar on COVID-19 Infection Prevention Control and WASH in health facilities targeting staff and partner NGOs attended by 58 individuals representing various organizations.

## Provision of Healthcare and Nutrition Services

In light of increasing cases of COVID-19 across Somalia, UNICEF's effort to adopt programmatic changes that will support the infection, prevention and control measures of COVID-19 has continued. The use of RapidPro to follow up on service provision is ongoing, with over 80 sites reported having provided individual counselling to 5,577 mothers/caretakers.

In the past two weeks, UNICEF successfully completed the virtual training on Nutrition including producing and airing a video using local television to further educate the public on COVID-19 prevention.

Reports from partners indicated that COVID-19 testing among health workers is ongoing and some health workers have tested positive. Notably, frontline workers are faced with fear of infection from COVID-19 and some facilities have been closed pending provision of personal protective equipment (PPE). UNICEF is closely following up on the delivery of PPEs that have already been procured in order to ensure continuity of essential nutrition and health services to the community.

UNICEF and the WHO continue to conduct webinar training of trainers, and 205 Health Cluster partners (27 F/143 M) were trained on COVID-19 & Community Health Workers case management, infection control measures and the continuation of essential health services. Subsequently, UNICEF partners carried out cascading trainings in supported health facilities for 322 staff members (149 F/173 M) and trained an additional 89 frontline health workers (45 F/44 M) on infection prevention control protocols. As a result, 78 percent of UNICEF supported health facilities have already set up handwashing stations and 44 percent have installed triage stations outside their health facilities in an attempt to minimise the spread of COVID-19 and enhance patient confidence. 3,375 bottles of hand sanitizer and 10,983 bars of soap were received in country and are due to be distributed to health facilities to support infection prevention.

## Access to Continuous Education and Child Protection Services

Approximately 814,000 school children have been affected by school closure. UNICEF continues working with partners for the provision of radio education materials to ensure continuity of education. During the reporting period, 23,500 children (9,400 girls) were reached through distance/home-based learning

To strengthen the Child protection services, 45 (32 F/13 M) Social Workers received four days of training on Child Protection and Gender Based Violence, and COVID-19, to provide a supportive role in the protection for women and children. 2778 (1467 children) children, parents and primary caregivers were provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support. Mobile outreach activities provided house to house counselling services, referral for the most at-risk persons of sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as informing on GBV/CP and COVID-19. Moreover, the child protection desk and protection desk in the IDP sites still continue their daily counselling service.

## Human Interest Stories and External Media

Social media activity continued to amplify UNICEF's work for children in Somalia and the crucial support of donors and partners. Messaging linked to key prevention measures for COVID-19 was highlighted and featured widely through all channels.

## Annex A

### Summary of Programme Results

Sector/COVID 19 Response Pillar	Overall needs	UNICEF and IPs		Cluster/AoR Response	
		2020 Target	Total Results	2020 Target	Total Results
<b>Risk Communication and Community Engagement including social science</b>					
Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services”		6 Million	10 Million		
<b>WASH</b>					
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services		300,000	310,800 (92308G  96006B  65066W  57420M)	1.2 M	384,330 (113942G 104735B  88589W 77064M)
Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)		2,000	58	3,000	-
<b>Health</b>					
Number of healthcare facilities staff and community health workers provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)		720	-		
Number of healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases including among children, pregnant and breastfeeding women		370	139 (64W  75M)		
Number of children and women receiving essential healthcare services, including immunization, prenatal and postnatal care, HIV care and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) response care in UNICEF supported facilities.		478,899	79,339 (22,372G  21,434B  35,584 W)		
<b>Nutrition</b>					
Number of primary caregivers of children aged 0-23 months who received IYCF counselling through facilities and community platforms.		97000	5,577		
<b>Education</b>					
Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning		360,000	23,500 (9,400G  14,100B		
Number of schools implementing safe school protocols (COVID-19 prevention and control)		450	-		
<b>Child Protection</b>					
Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support		100,000	2,778 (790G  677B  822 W  489M)		
Number of UNICEF personnel and partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation and referrals for survivors, including for sexual exploitation and abuse		300	237 (127W/110M)		

## Annex B Funding Status

COVID-19 UNICEF Somalia Appeal Specific Requirements and Funding Levels					
Appeal Sector	Requirements*	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Reprogrammed	US\$	%
Objective 1 - Limit Transmission (integrated health, WASH, C4D prevention)	8,610,000	578,011	663,671	7,368,318	86%
Objective 2 - Minimize Mortality and Morbidity (Health Response)	5,335,000	0	0	5,335,000	100%
Objective 3 - Prevent Secondary Impacts					
Health	3,855,528	0	0	3,855,528	100%
Nutrition	7,457,403	0	0	7,457,403	100%
Education	1,051,950	924,793	0	127,157	12%
Child Protection	1,521,919	267,610	0	1,254,309	82%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,831,800</b>	<b>1,770,414</b>	<b>663,671</b>	<b>25,397,715</b>	<b>91%</b>

Next SitRep: 31 May 2020

UNICEF Somalia Crisis: <https://www.unicef.org/somalia/>

UNICEF Somalia Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/somalia.html>

A joint MOH/UNICEF press release: <https://www.unicef.org/somalia/stories/frontlines-combating-covid-19>

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