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Somalia

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 4



Reporting Period: 1 to 30 April 2020

Highlights

- UNICEF reached 11,866 children in April with lifesaving nutrition treatment. In the first four months of 2020, the 64,461 children reached represent 48 per cent of the UNICEF target for 2020.
- UNICEF and its emergency partners ensured continuation of essential health service provision in the COVID-19 context. Throughout April, 79,709 people including internally displaced people (IDP) and hard-to reach populations received essential health services.
- Due to COVID-19 schools in Somalia have been closed and replaced with distance learning modalities.
- UNICEF reached 66,000 people in April displaced by ongoing conflicts in South Central Somalia with temporary access to safe drinking water through water trucking and vouchers.
- In response to migrant arrivals from Ethiopia, UNICEF in collaboration with partners established child protection desks and safe houses in main migratory corridors to provide integrated protection support to children on the move.
- In Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), UNICEF reached approximately 8 million people through media engagement and 284,251 through community engagement in messaging.

Situation in Numbers



3,200,000

children in need of humanitarian assistance (Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2019)



5,200,000

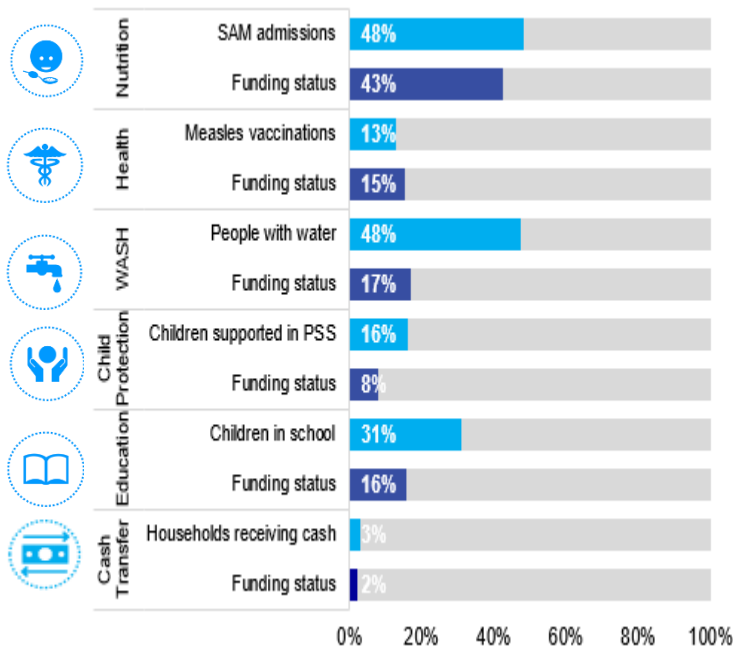
people in need (Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2019)



2,600,000

Internally displaced people (IDPs) OR refugees (Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2019)

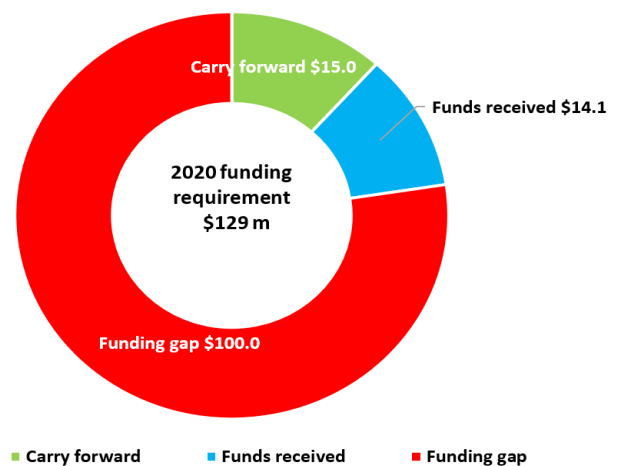
UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2020

US\$ 129 million

Funding Status in US\$ millions



Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2020, UNICEF is appealing for **US\$ 129.1** million to sustain provision of life-saving services including critical nutrition, health, WASH, child protection and education in emergency interventions, as well as cash-based assistance for women and children in Somalia. Continued predictable, flexible and timely donor support is critical to sustaining vital response activities and preventing further deterioration of the situation. The contributions made in 2020 will enable UNICEF and partners to ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance at scale as a result of droughts, floods and conflict.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Somalia's health system is still recovering from major shocks (conflict, natural disasters such as floods, ongoing cholera/acute watery diarrhoea [AWD] outbreaks) that have lasted for decades. The arrival and impact of COVID-19 across Somalia has challenged the capacity of the country's health system for screening, testing, tracing, and case management. The consequences of widespread transmission would be catastrophic in a country already struggling with conflict, high levels of insecurity, soaring malnutrition, and AWD/cholera. Efforts are ongoing to scale up activities across all sectors to reach and meet the needs created due to the pandemic, while continuing to attempt to address the already existing humanitarian needs in the country. There is a very real concern that the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 will lead to major setbacks for affected populations in the short, medium and long-term. During April the seasonal *Gu* rains commenced in moderate to high intensity throughout many places across Somalia. As a result of the heavy rains, flash flooding was seen in northern regions and riverine flooding along the Juba and Shabelle rivers in the south. Amongst the hardest hit were the low-lying areas in Bay and Bakool as well as in Bari region where flooding displaced an estimated 21,000 people in April¹. Compounding the impact of the floods, the locust plague which was prevalent in late 2019 has returned with the breeding of a second wave of the insects in the North Western regions of Somalia². Control measures are underway however there is concerns that more groups and swarms could still form and have a severe impact on food security.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

The delivery of integrated nutrition treatment, preventive and promotive services has continued across Somalia. Between January and April 2020, 64,461 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were reached with lifesaving treatment including 11,866 children reached in April. The 64,461 children reached represent 48 percent of the UNICEF annual target. There appears to be a notable reduction in admissions when April 2020 data (11,866 children) is compared to March 2020 (15,200 children), with concerns being raised by partners around COVID-19 having an impact on programme implementation, in addition to the relatively lower reporting rates typical of the Ramadan month. Given the current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nutrition programme has adopted programmatic changes that will support the infection, prevention and control (IPC) of COVID-19 based on the Technical Notes' guidance from the Global Technical Team. As a result, the Somalia Nutrition Cluster, supported by UNICEF and WFP, provided guidance through virtual training sessions to all implementing partners on wasting management, infant and young child feeding (IYCF) and the role of Community Health Workers during the COVID-19 outbreak. Some of the key changes include admissions criteria now shifting to MUAC and oedema measurement only, changes in rations distribution depending on malnutrition type (SAM cases in outpatient get two sachets per day of RUTF and MAM cases get one sachet) and the use of family/mother-led MUAC measurements. The Nutrition sector also sourced PPE for frontline workers, set up triage areas in facilities and, where possible, liaised with the WASH sector for the distribution of hygiene kits for households.

Health

UNICEF and its emergency partners ensured continuation of essential health service provision to the most disadvantaged in the COVID-19 context. Throughout April, 79,709 people including internally displaced people (IDP) and hard-to reach populations benefited from essential health services. There were 18,290 pregnant women who attended at least one antenatal appointment and 2,836 women who gave birth with a skilled birth attendant. Measles vaccinations were completed for 7,841 children under 1 year of age and 5,430 under 1 year olds received Penta 3 vaccinations. Though outpatient clinics (OPD), the expanded programme on immunisation (EPI) and antenatal care (ANC) services showed a monthly increase in service utilisation between 7 and 19 per cent in the first quarter, the uptake of OPD, EPI and ANC services was down between 10 per cent and 15 per cent in April compared to March. Delivery and postnatal care services increased slightly by 7 and 4 per cent respectively, over the same time period. To ensure patient safety and trust in emergency services provided, 105 partners received Training of Trainers by UNICEF via the health cluster. Subsequently, 92 healthcare workers (including 43 women) were trained on essential health service

¹ <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-flash-flooding-update-2-29-april-2020>

² <http://www.fao.org/ag/locusts/envinfo/info/index.html>

continuity in context of COVID-19, 89 health facility staff (including 45 women) on infection prevention control and 59 CHWs (including 28 women) received training on COVID-19 awareness and protection.

WASH

UNICEF reached 66,000 people in April displaced by ongoing conflicts in South Central Somalia with temporary access to safe drinking water through water trucking and vouchers in Lower Shabelle, Bay and Gedo regions. An additional 3,500 people benefited from access to safe water through chlorination of 19 water points in Bakool region. UNICEF supported reliable water sources for communities through rehabilitation, upgrading and new constructions of water sources reaching 66,300 people in South Central regions and Puntland

In sanitation, 25,500 people have access to improved sanitation through the construction of 277 family shared and communal latrines, rehabilitation and desludging in IDP settlements and institutional sanitation in Mudug, Bay, Lower Shabelle and Juba regions. To improve on hygiene and as part of the COVID-19 pandemic response, 220,000 people received hygiene kits across Somalia and 24 schools in Puntland had new handwashing stations constructed. Another 153,000 people were reached with hygiene messaging through house-to-house visits and mass media.

Education

Due to the spread of COVID-19 all of the schools were closed late March across Somalia by the government as a precautionary measure to curb the spread of the pandemic. As a result, the focus shifted to COVID-19 response to ensure continuation of schools during the school closure. The school closure affected on site learning activities in April. To mitigate the disproportionately negative impact on children's learning, UNICEF supported the Ministries of Education in the development and dissemination of radio, TV and online pre-recorded lessons to ensure continuous distance learning during the prolonged school closure. In Somaliland radio and TV lesson for grade 8 and 2 have been rolled out. In addition, the Ministry have liaised with the local telecommunication company to launch free of charge lessons through the cellphone where the learners or parents can call a dedicated number and then choose the lessons they wish to listen to. In Puntland, with the help of UNICEF, the Ministry of Education has launched E-learning program where the initial testing and recording of lessons for grade 8 and 12 have been successfully completed and uploaded provisionally to the Ministry's education learning site.

Child Protection

An upsurge of Ethiopian migrants' entering into Bossaso has been recorded in the past few months by the Puntland Ministry of Interior. Inflow and outflow of Ethiopian migrants has been documented in February and March with over 9,000 women, men and children arriving. A considerable number of migrants are unaccompanied and separated children. Though moving in groups, women are highly exposed to gender-based violence (GBV) either from accompanying male migrants or from other perpetrators. In addition, migrants often travel without identity documents with the fear that authorities in countries of transit and destination will use their documentation for identification and potential deportation back to Ethiopia. In response, UNICEF, in collaboration with Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs (Puntland) and Ministry of Employment Social Affairs and Family (Somaliland), has established 20 child protection desks, 10 One- Stop GBV Centres, 10 women and Child desks at police stations and 7 safe houses along the main migratory corridors to provide integrated protection support to children on the move such as shelter, psychosocial support, medical and legal referral and case management. UNICEF collaborated with IOM to voluntarily repatriate 30 children (21 boys and 9 girls) and reunify them with their families in Ethiopia.

Cash-based Programming

The Nutrition Safety Net Cash Transfers in Wajid and Hudur districts of Bakool Region that started in October 2019 concluded in March 2020 with a total enrolment of 238 households with a transfer value of \$ 20 per month for 3 consecutive months.

Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement & Accountability

Humanitarian organizations and Government partners in Somalia are conducting Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) interventions for the COVID-19 response through a taskforce. Each member has their deliverables aligned to the national RCCE plan. During the reporting period, the C4D section, in collaboration with external communication and health sections, reached approximately 8 million people through media engagement and 284,251 through community engagement with COVID-19 related messaging. In total, 2,013 radio spots were broadcast, 36,807 IEC materials were distributed, 3,197 community meetings were held and 6,672 mosque announcements were made.

A total of 6,760 community mobilizers, community leaders, and religious leaders were trained and engaged. A small-scale assessment on RCCE intervention has been completed with early findings indicating that people are aware that there is a COVID-19 hotline that can be contacted for guidance.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF's ongoing humanitarian action focuses on an integrated, inclusive, and multi-sectoral response to residual drought impact, displacement, conflict, disease outbreaks and seasonal floods. In line with the 2020 Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), as well as the Centrality of Protection Strategy, UNICEF's priorities are to provide life-saving services to address critical malnutrition and excess mortality, effectively respond to mounting protection threats and support resilience building and early recovery. UNICEF is also committed to implementing gender-responsive and socially inclusive humanitarian action to ensure those most in need receive the right life-saving services.

UNICEF leads the WASH and Nutrition Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility and co-leads the Education Cluster with Save the Children. The operational capacity of the UNICEF-led Clusters is significant, with a network of over 240 partners, including sub-regional coordinators in over 15 regions. The network facilitates access to information, coordination and interventions in hard-to-reach and inaccessible areas. UNICEF has also supported gender capacity strengthening through multiple training sessions for Clusters to ensure the drought preparedness and response is gender-responsive and inclusive, including access to gender-based violence (GBV) services and psychosocial support to separated or unaccompanied children. UNICEF and partners engage with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADMD) on strengthening collaboration mechanisms for humanitarian response.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

In April, messaging linked to key prevention measures of COVID-19 was disseminated through radio spots, billboards, posters, stickers and flyers reaching an estimated 8 million people. UNICEF Somalia's newly launched website and social media channels continued to amplify UNICEF's critical response activities and the crucial support of donors and partners.

Next SitRep: 20 June 2020

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

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

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall needs	UNICEF and IPs			Cluster/AoR Response		
		2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼
Nutrition							
# of boys and girls 6-59 months with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) admitted to therapeutic care through the simplified protocol	830,000	43,000 (21,930 G 21,070 B)	2090 (1087 G 1003 B)	361 ▲	623,000 (317,730 G 305,270 B)	123,292 (66,690 G 56,602 B)	19,465 ▲

# of boys and girls 6-59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care	178,437	133,500 (68,085 G 65,415 B)	64,461 (35,411 G 29,050 B)	11,816 ▲	178,437 (91,003 G 87,434B)	74,127 (40,576 G 33,551 B)	22,515 ▲
# of pregnant and lactating women receiving preventative services through supplementary nutrition	562,000	199,500	69,871	12,934 ▲	202,000	94,099	32,710 ▲
# of primary caregivers of children 0-23 months who received counselling on infant and young child feeding	N/A	650,000*	220,822	45,444 ▲	421,696	262,015	97,564 ▲
Health							
# of children vaccinated against measles		99,743 (50,869 G 48,874 B)	40,946 (22,229 G 18,717 B)	7841 ▲			
# of emergency-affected pregnant woman receiving delivery services by skilled birth attendants		48,420	11,642	2836 ▲			
# of people provided with access to essential and life-saving health care services		968,389 (264,719 G 254,337 B 229,160 W 220,173 M)	361,015 (98,770 G 89,444 B 101,120 W 71,681 M)	79,709 ▲			
% of communicable diseases outbreaks investigated and responded to in the first 72 hours		90%	N/A^	0			
WASH							
# of people reached with emergency water services in targeted settlements and communities.	2,400,000	800,000 (240,000 G 248,000 B 168,000 W 144,000 M)	380,524 (91,716 G 87,374 B 100,963 W 100,471 M)	69,477 ▲	2,229,199 (1,049,953 W 1,179,246 M)	418,686 (125,606 G 146,539 B 75,364 W 71,177 M)	69,516 ▲
# of people reached with hygiene promotion activities and hygiene kits distribution in vulnerable settlements and communities.	2,700,000	1,200,000 (360,000 G 372,000 B 252,000 W 216,000 M)	569,644 (160,026 G 162,988 B 128,414 W 118,216 M)	382,413 ▲	2,359,564 (1,111,355 W 1,248,209 M)	610,687 (183,206 G 213,739 B 109,924 W 103,818 M)	383,914 ▲
# of people reached with sanitation services in vulnerable settlements and communities.	1,800,000	220,000 (66,000 G 68,200 B 46,200 W 39,600 M)	61,354 (17,268 G 17,599 B 13,800 W 12,687 M)	25,511 ▲	980,221 (461,684 W 518,537 M)	85,174 (25,552 G 29,812 B 15,332 W 14,478 M)	18,654 ▲
# of people reached with sustainable access to safe water in targeted settlements and communities.	1,400,000	450,000 (135,000 G 139,500 B 94,500 W 81,000 M)	184,800 (49,878 G 49,991 B 43,696 W 41,235 M)	66,315 ▲	1,249,102 (588,327 W 660,775 M)	224,223 (67,266 G 78,480 B 40,360 W 38,117 M)	55,814 ▲
Child Protection							
# of children participating in community-based mental health and psychosocial support activities, including child friendly spaces	N/A	175,000 (80,000 G 80,000 B 10,000 W 5,000 M)	20,847 (7507 G 9621 B 2180 W 1539 M)	5,363 ▲	310,419 (90,022 G 108,647 B 58,980 W 52,271 M)	24,912 (10,975 G 11,663 B 2048 W 226 M)	2428 ▲
# of girls and boys formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups provided with reintegration support	4,000	2,000 (500 G 1500 B)	986 (176 G 810 B)	11 ▲	3,725 (1080 G 1304 B 708 W 633 M)	2,242 (505 G 1737 B)	344 ▲
# of people targeted with rights-based public outreach and awareness raising activities	N/A	200,000 (80,000 G 80,000 B 20,000 W 20,000 M)	44,983 (11,753 G 12,237 B 12,396 W 8597 M)	9,653 ▲	566,205 (164,199 G 198,172 B 107,579 W 96,255 M)	80,770 (23,059 G 23,356 B 20,805 W 13,550 M)	16,240 ▲
# of registered unaccompanied and separated children supported with reunification services, family-based care or appropriate alternative care	N/A	8,000 (3000 G 5000 B)	3,709 (1365 G 2344 B)	910 ▲	18,625 (8440 G 10,186 B)	5,353 (2445 G 2908 B)	1,103 ▲
# of survivors of gender-based violence accessing a package of GBV services (medical, legal, mental health, psychosocial support and materials)		3,000 (1400 G 70 B 1500 W 30 M)	2,188 (585 G 38 B 1519 W 46 M)	610 ▲			
Education							
# children and youth accessing quality formal or non-formal primary education	1,300,000	130,000 (65,000 G 65,000 B)	40,145 (18,300 G 21,845 B)	0	307,283 (150,569 G 156,714 B)	119,776 (53,149 G 66,627 B)	0
# of classrooms constructed or rehabilitated with child friendly and inclusive (incl. children with disabilities) WASH facilities available to emergency-affected school children and youth	N/A	120	39	0	5,000	535	0

# of school children benefitting from emergency teaching and learning materials	1,300,000	130,000 (65,000 G 65,000 B)	4,800 (1920 G 2880 B)	0	307,283 (150,569 G 156,714 B)	86,425 (39,256 G 47,169 B)	0
# teachers supported with emergency incentives	N/A	800 (240 W 560 M)	528 (135 W 393 M)	0	7,300 (3,577 W , 3,723 M)	3,043 (961 W 2082 M)	0
Cash Transfers							
# of vulnerable households received cash transfers		8,000	238	0			

* The Nutrition target is higher than the Nutrition Cluster target as UNICEF will be programming in an additional 14 districts.\

^ COVID-19 data can be accessed via the following link: <https://rebrand.ly/who-covid-somalia-dashboard>

Annex B

Funding Status*

Funding Requirements (as defined in the 2020 Humanitarian Appeal)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements*	Funds available**		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	US\$	%
Health	21,346,576	934,068	2,395,724	18,016,784	84%
Nutrition	33,653,015	9,571,496	4,841,503	19,240,016	57%
Education	18,727,500	1,681,218	1,328,353	15,717,929	84%
WASH	35,340,722	1,333,301	4,916,122	29,091,300	82%
Child Protection	14,256,379	598,381	533,155	13,124,843	92%
Cash-based response	2,860,790	0	342,683	2,518,107	88%
Cluster/Sector Coordination	2,999,588	0	683,492	2,316,096	77%
Total	129,184,570	14,118,464	15,041,032	100,025,074	77%

*Funds available' includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year.

UNICEF humanitarian programmes also benefit from resilience funding generously contributed by multiple different donors. Such resources help UNICEF contribute towards both humanitarian efforts and interventions at the nexus between humanitarian and development action for children.