



Reporting Period: 15 – 24 June 2020

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# Somalia

## COVID-19

### Situation Report No. 6

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#### Highlights

- In Somalia, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases has risen to 2,835 with 90 deaths and 829 recoveries as of 24 June 2020. UNICEF is currently supporting the Government of Somalia in the implementation of its COVID-19 response by placing gender equity at the center of its effort.
- Since the advent of COVID-19 pandemic, partners have reported the increase of Gender Based Violence (GBV) cases in Somalia that UNICEF scaled up its Child Protection interventions. During the reporting period, 142 UNICEF personnel and partners were trained on GBV risk mitigation and referrals for survivors, including for sexual exploitation and abuse.
- UNICEF supported the delivery of a community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to 2,188 children, parents and primary caregivers.
- As the result of the closing of all schools as a COVID-19 precautionary measure, approximately 814,000 school children have been affected in the country. UNICEF is supporting the distance learning of 116,612 children, of which 48,218 (41%) were girls.
- As part of UNICEF's COVID-19 response, over 704,000 people (210,850 girls, 215,512 boys, 148,868 women, 128,993 men) were reached with critical WASH supplies and services, including hygiene items and safe water supply through water trucking.
- Delivery of lifesaving essential health services across Somalia remains UNICEF's priority. During the reporting period, 42,630 children and women received essential healthcare services.
- New radio spots aired throughout Somalia. The spots feature three prominent religious leaders and highlight key COVID-19 prevention measures, targeting an estimated 10 million people.

#### Funding Overview

UNICEF's COVID-19 appeal is US\$ 27.8 million with US\$ 13.3 million funding received so far. Existing funds have also been reprogrammed, addressing 8.34 % of the funding gap.

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 needs.

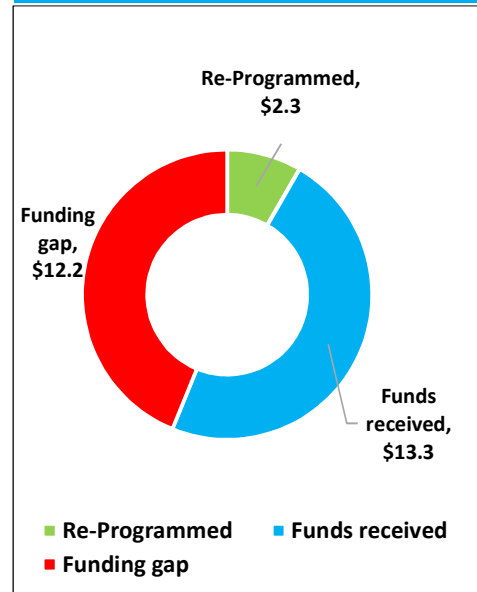
#### Situation in Numbers

**2,835** Confirmed cases in Somalia

**90** Deaths

(Ministry of Health, 24 June 2020)

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



## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Need

In Somalia, since the first case was detected on 16 March, 2,835 cases have been confirmed including 829 recoveries and 90 deaths.

The Government of Somalia continues to implement a range of COVID-19 preventive measures. This includes a ban on travel between states, with some exemptions, such as emergency, humanitarian and essential services. All non-essential services remain closed, and public sector offices remain on reduced working hours.

Following the advent of the pandemic, partners have reported the increase of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases in Somalia. Women's Action for Advocacy and Progress Organization (WAAPO) and Bahikoob Social Workers have reported 43 Gender Based Violence cases from Hargeisa, Borama and Burao comprising of eight incidents of intimate partner violence, six incidents of female genital mutilation (FGM), 27 rape cases, and two cases of unwanted pregnancy. Similarly, in Ahmed Dhagah district of Hargeisa and Sheikh Osman District of Borama, an increase in GBV, including intimate partner violence was noted, as most men are at home due to lack of employment, making women susceptible to violence.

According to the Gender-Based Violence guidance notes on COVID-19 produced by the GBV sub-cluster in April 2020, the limited mobility of women to seek for menial jobs and petty trading to complement family income is affecting household food security. Furthermore, it is also heightening their risk of intimate partner violence and other forms of gender-based violence.

## 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 supported the COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement interventions that aimed at increasing community awareness, participation and active engagement in COVID-19 prevention activities. A total of 230,564 people were reached through different modalities including a house-to-house visits of which 8,769 were directly engaged through community meetings and health facility awareness creation sessions. Furthermore, new radio spots aired throughout Somalia. The spots feature three prominent religious leaders and highlight key COVID-19 prevention measures, targeting an estimated 10 million people.

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

UNICEF continues to provide WASH services during the COVID-19 pandemic through provisions of critical WASH supplies and water. In the last two weeks, 11,994 people received hygiene kits in Marka, Afgooye, Barawe and Walaweyn districts in Lower Shabelle region. Since March 2020, UNICEF has reached 704,042 people with essential WASH supplies to vulnerable people across Somalia.

To address the challenges of women and girls, and in line with UNICEF's gender-sensitive programming, UNICEF is supporting water trucking to ensure households have access to sufficient quantities of water for handwashing and women do not have to travel long distances to collect water. To enhance dignity amongst women and adolescent girls, 30,200 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits were distributed to women and adolescent girls in the last three months.

## Provision of Healthcare and Nutrition Services

The training of health care workers on COVID-19 related issues has been completed in UNICEF-supported health facilities in Somaliland. 100% of health facilities in Somaliland have established a hand-washing stations outside of the facility. In addition, 181 staff (94 F / 87 M) in these facilities were trained on infection prevention control protocols. 155 Community Health Workers (94 F / 61 M) received trainings on COVID-19 prevention and case detection.

Through UNICEF support to multisectoral coordination mechanisms, efforts to ensure that nutrition services reach those most in need have continued. The Nutrition sub-sector in Somaliland now conducts monthly working group meetings focusing on the implementation status of guidelines for provision of nutrition services in the context of COVID-19, among other issues. Trainings for nutrition frontline workers is ongoing to ensure application of IPC measures against COVID-19. Ministry of Health and other nutrition partners trained around 300 nutrition staff in Somaliland in the month of June and cumulatively more than 85% frontline workers in Somalia have been trained on COVID-19 and nutrition interventions particularly on applying wasting management and IYCF guidelines.

## Access to Continuous Education and Child Protection Services

A total of 116,612 children (41% girls) benefitted from the distance learning lessons disseminated through TV, radio and online platforms. Nearly, 48,218 adolescent girls benefitted from some form of alternative learning modality and life skills lesson in a distance mode. Ministries of Education are preparing for the reopening of schools and developing safe school operation guidelines to mitigate risks of COVID-19 transmission in schools. UNICEF is supporting all the Ministries of Education to develop the Safe School guidelines and checklist integrating WASH, Health, Nutrition, Psychosocial Support and Child protection components. The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOE/HE) Puntland, leads Africa in adopting the Learning Passport, a technological platform to store and provide local, contextualized content to keep children learning online and offline. It enables high quality, flexible learning presently benefitting 11,168 children (42% girls) from grades 8 and 12. UNICEF is providing technical support to MoECHE Federal Government Somalia in recording of the distance learning lesson plans for grades 1 to 12. In Federal member states, a total of 3,134 adolescent girls were provided with sanitary kits during the pandemic and also educated about the prevention measures of COVID-19. A total of 488 teachers, headteachers and CEC members (22% female) information on prevention, transmission and mitigation protocols for COVID-19 was provided.

In response to the increased GBV risks, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Employment Social Affairs and Family (MESAF) deploy a total of 45 student social workers to 13 districts in main cities of Somaliland to provide critical Child Protection services to vulnerable children; an online survey on the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable children was also facilitated.

A total 54 community representatives (34 F/ 21M) selected from different community groups such as youth, women groups, Traditional Birth Attendance/Midwives, health care workers, traditional leaders, religious leaders, community committees, students, law enforcement, teachers, students participated in a community discussion forums where they mentioned their commitment of bringing change in their communities through addressing key child protection issues such as FGM, early and forced marriages.

## 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	11,994 (3253G  3148B  3704W  1889M)	1.2 M	43,626 (13,088G 15,269B  7,853W 7,416M)
Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)		2,000	-	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	201 (99W  102M)		
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	42,630 (11,972G  10,870B  19788 W)		
<b>Nutrition</b>					
Number of primary caregivers of children aged 0-23 months who received IYCF counselling through facilities and community platforms.		97000	9,290		
<b>Education</b>					
Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning		360,000	116,612 (48218G  68394B		
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	2,188 (357G  473B  579 W  779M)		
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	142 (62W/80M)		

## 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	8,610,000	6,008,316	2,054,656	547,028	6%
Objective 2 - Minimize Mortality and Morbidity	5,335,000	4,990,122	0	344,878	6%
Objective 3 - Prevent Secondary Impacts					
Health	3,855,528	0	0	3,855,528	100%
Nutrition	7,457,403	450,000	0	7,007,403	94%
Education	1,051,950	994,793	265,760	-	-
Child Protection	1,521,919	867,610	0	654,309	43%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,831,800</b>	<b>13,310,841</b>	<b>2,320,416</b>	<b>12,200,543</b>	<b>44%</b>

Next SitRep: 15 July 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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