



©UNICEF Afghanistan/2019/Mohammadi

Afghanistan

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 2



Reporting Period: 01 July – 30 September 2019

Highlights

- Since the beginning of the year, 140 schools were documented closed due to insecurity, military use, fear of attack during armed operation and ground engagement, depriving 55,486 children from education. During the Presidential Election in September 2019, the use of nearly 4,600 educational and 140 health facilities as polling centers increased their vulnerability and 55 health care facilities damaged between July and September 2019, depriving children and women from life-saving maternal and child health services.
- As of September 2019, the HAC appeal is only 46 per cent funded against a request of US\$50 million. Education, Health and Child Protection programmes are underfunded by more than 80 per cent preventing access to basic social services.
- UNICEF is applying a revised treatment approach for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) with reduced dosage of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) in five high burden provinces to mitigate risk of national stock out of RUTF due to limited funding.

Situation in Numbers



3,800,000
children in need of humanitarian assistance



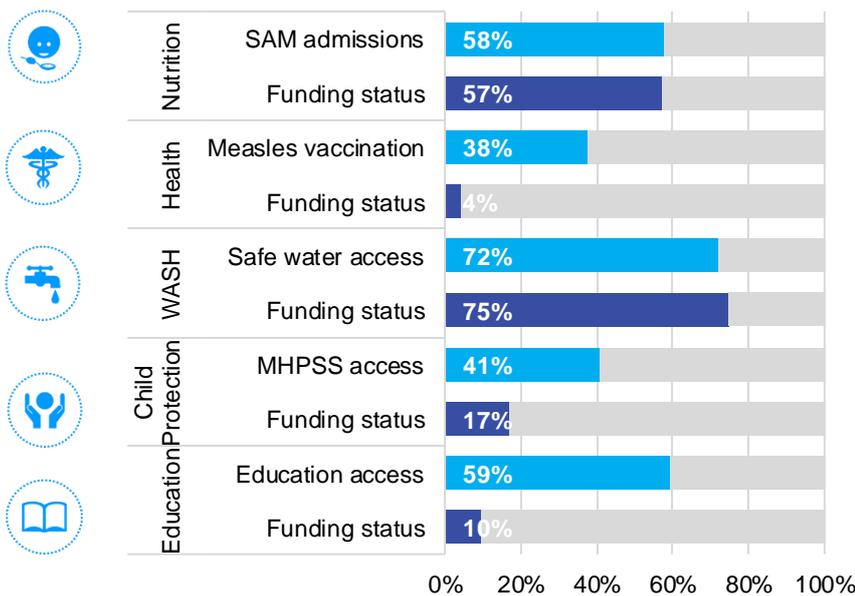
6,300,000
people in need (HNO & HRP, 2019)



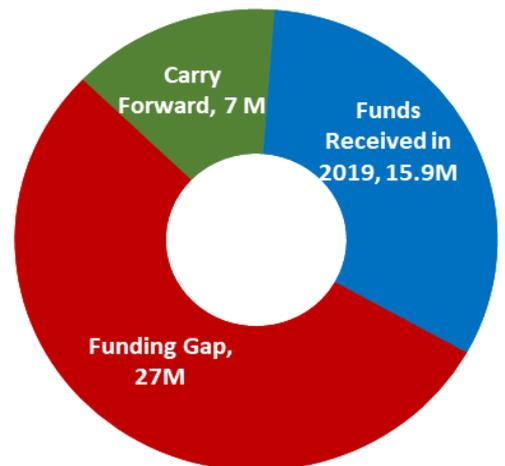
282,800
Internally displaced people (IDPs) OR refugees

367,600
of unregistered refugees (UNHCR, September 2019)

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2019 US\$ 50 million



provinces. The current average dosage is 136 sachets per child, and this will be decreased to 90 sachets per child per treatment cycle. Children will be closely monitored, and if data indicates that the revised protocol works, SAM treatment cost will be reduced by about 30 per cent.

Health

During the reporting period, UNICEF noted an increase in health service coverage. More than 106,319 children and 9,568 pregnant/lactating women from most vulnerable communities, including Afghan returnees from overseas, received basic health services through 77 mobile health teams across the country. In addition, UNICEF distributed clean delivery and new born kits to 5,387 beneficiaries. UNICEF also provided 10 tents to establish health services in IDP camps and in communities with no health facilities. Seventy-four health officials in seven provinces received Health in Emergency training resulting in improved quality services for emergency affected children and women. Between June and July, and due to extreme weather conditions, an increase in diarrhoea cases was reported in the eastern part of the country. With partners, UNICEF provided oral rehydration therapy (ORS) and Zinc to 1.2 million children. So far, in 2019, 133 of the 319 reported security incidents affecting aid workers targeted health personnel and facilities. The provinces which witnessed the most incidents were the capital Kabul and Kandahar in the South, with 31 incidents each, followed by Nangahar in the east with 29, and Balkh in the north with 20 incidents. Health remains one of the underfunded sectors with 96 per cent funding gap. Regular resources are being re-programmed to reach the HAC targets in 2019.

WASH

UNICEF continues to work with government line ministries (Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Education) and their departments at provincial level, as well as civil society organisations to implement a comprehensive package of life saving and durable interventions within the complex context of emerging, cyclical and protracted emergencies. This includes sustainable/safe water supply systems, provision of sanitation facilities/services and hygiene awareness campaigns. Between July and September, UNICEF reached more than 36,000 people with safe drinking water, 15,640 people with sanitation facilities/services, and 23,135 people with hygiene promotion interventions, out of which 9,842 people received emergency family hygiene kits.

UNICEF continued provision of water through water trucking as a last resort modality to drought affected internally displaced populations (IDPs) in western region of Afghanistan until early September. UNICEF and its partners have pre-positioned emergency supplies to reach 23,000 households (approximately 161,000 people) with rapid emergency response. UNICEF's Humanitarian WASH interventions are increasingly focusing on durable and sustainable solutions, where these options are available and feasible. This also includes building capacity of local population, community development centres (CDCs) and water users' committees to ensure regular operation and maintenance of installed facilities and services.

Education

During the reporting period, UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry of Education (MoE) and four Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) provided quality education to 50,125 children, more than 50 per cent girls, representing 49 per cent of total 2019 HAC target. This was achieved by establishing temporary learning spaces, ensuring linkages with Child Protection and WASH programmes, providing teaching and learning materials, recruiting and training teachers, especially female, as well as mobilizing communities on children's right to education.

As co-lead of the Education in Emergency (EiE) working group, UNICEF worked with the MoE to develop a standardized EiE response package, including a costing framework and teachers' training manual to be used by all partners. Furthermore, UNICEF is leading a task force to develop a Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSSF) to respond to attacks on education and other emergencies. This framework is expected to promote awareness for school safety, infrastructure development, formulation of School Emergency Management Plans.

Child Protection

UNICEF leads the sub cluster on Child Protection, working with multiple partners. During the reporting period, UNICEF supported 8,167 children (3,712 girls and 4,455 boys) through Child Friendly Spaces in displaced communities and provided psychosocial support and referrals to other specialised services for all children affected by various child protection issues, including gender-based violence. These children included those internally displaced, host communities and returnees from abroad. Approximately 834 of them benefitted from case management support and were reunified with their families, 84 were prevented from being recruited by armed forces, and 6,853 received winterization supplies. In addition, UNICEF further advocated on Grave Violation of Child Rights at national and

subnational levels leading to the endorsement of national age assessment guidelines to prevent recruitment by armed forces of children under. With an existing gap of 83 per cent, funding has been a major challenge to the provision of child protection services in Afghanistan.

Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP):

Between July and September, UNICEF reached a total 65,402 adolescents (33,213 males and 32,207 females) through multi-purpose adolescent group (MAG) members. MAG members, comprised of adolescent girl and boy champions seeking positive change by engaging with their marginalized peers, are actively involved in targeted awareness raising campaigns at local, provincial and national level. UNICEF also provided technical assistance to develop a Child Act and Child Marriage National Action plan to guide implementation of initiatives to end child-marriage and supported accelerated access to a range of services for adolescents, especially girls, including education (formal and non-formal), maternal health care services, nutrition, and menstrual hygiene and sanitation services and information for girls in school.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF leads the Nutrition and WASH Clusters, the Child Protection Sub-Cluster and Co-Leads Education in Emergency Working Group (EIEWG). The entire humanitarian architecture is being revisited in line with the recommendations proposed by the 'Peer to Peer Mission' held in March and April 2019 with UNICEF providing lifesaving humanitarian assistance while strengthening cluster capacity on emergency readiness and response, ensuring linkages between humanitarian and development interventions. The EIEWG coordination mechanisms at the national and sub-national levels have been established for standardized EiE response to ensure better value for money. Through UNICEF's advocacy, Afghanistan was identified as an ECW multi-year programme recipient of US\$45 million.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

During the reporting period, UNICEF Communication and Advocacy spearheaded the development of a comprehensive advocacy strategy and action plan on attack on schools as part of the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) of Grave Child Rights Violations. Strong calls were also made across social media and media platforms at national, regional and headquarter levels on grave child rights violations including the SGs 2019 Report on Children Affected by Armed Conflict (CAAC) with Afghanistan's children being the worst affected. A Palais briefing in Geneva on the imminent breakdown in the RUTF supply chain was also facilitated resulting in high coverage on top tier media outlets including VOA: [UNICEF: Malnourished Children in Afghanistan Risk Dying](#); UN news: [Around 600,000 Afghan children face death through malnutrition without emergency funds: UNICEF](#) and Xinhua: [600,000 Afghanistan children suffering from severe acute malnutrition: UNICEF](#) picked up by [Chinadailyasia.com](#). See also photo essay on the scars of war and its impact on children. <https://www.unicef.org/afghanistan/stories/voices-children-who-continue-be-hardest-hit-conflict-afghanistan>

Next SitRep: 31 January 2020

UNICEF Afghanistan Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal:

<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/>

Who to contact for further information: Aboubacar Kampo
Representative
UNICEF Afghanistan
Tel: +93 790507100
Email: akampo@unicef.org

Sheema Sen Gupta
Deputy Representative
UNICEF Afghanistan
Tel: +93 790507101
Email: ssengupta@unicef.org

Mustapha Ben Messaoud
Chief Field Coordination & Emergency
UNICEF Afghanistan
Tel: +93 790507150
Email: mbenmessaoud@unicef.org

Alison Parker
Chief of Communications
UNICEF Afghanistan
Tel: +93 790507110
Email: aparkers@unicef.org

Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall needs	Cluster/Sector Response			UNICEF and IPs		
		2019 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲▼	2019 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲▼
Nutrition							
Number of children under 5 with SAM admitted for treatment*	546,000	273,000 ¹	217,315	▲ 40,099	377,000	217,315	▲ 87,617
Number of children 6-59 Months received Vitamin A	230,000	78,000	2,980		78,000	2,980	▲ 18 ²
Health							
Number of children (9 months - 10 years) who received measles vaccination					75,000	20,431	▲ 8,194
Number of pregnant/lactating women and children benefited from essential health services and health education					196,000	260,738	▲ 115,887
WASH							
Number of people affected by humanitarian crisis accessing safe drinking water.	2,100,000	1,100,000	703,089	▲ 208,098	300,000	215,681	▲ 36,061
Number of people affected by humanitarian crisis accessing sanitation facilities.	2,100,000	450,000	210,885	▲ 50,442	100,000	46,125	▲ 15,640
Child Protection							
Number of Children accessing psychosocial supports through child-friendly spaces	500,000	82,451	32,641	▲ 1,991	80,000	32,641 ³	▲ 8,167
Number of children protected and supported through case management and family reunification	15,000	8,245	3,623	▼ 604	7,500	3,623	▲ 834

¹ Nutrition cluster target is only for 22 provinces and UNICEF target is for 34 provinces. Therefore, cluster target is less than UNICEF one

² Vit A distribution was focused on IDP children who were missed during the first round of National Immunization Campaign

³ This figure is corrected from the figure reported in the first Sitrep

Number of people affected by conflict and natural disaster received winter clothes and other non-food items	600,000				200,000	67,635	▲ 6,853
Education							
Number of emergencyaffected children and adolescents who accessed quality education	500,000	349,372	184,749	▲ 139,571	160,000	79,359	▲ 50,125

Annex B

Funding Status*

Sector	Requirements 2019	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Received Current Year	Carry-Over	\$	%
Nutrition	26,500,000	10,499,133	4,634,167	11,366,720	43
Health	2,500,000	109,749	0	2,390,251	96
WASH	7,000,000	3,113,393	2,121,154	1,765,453	25
Child Protection	5,000,000	733,000	137,537	4,153,395	83
Education	7,000,000	709,068	50,974	6,324,026	90
Cluster Coordination	2,000,000	822,848	57,111	1,017,543	51
Total	50,000,000	15,987,171	7,000,943	27,017,388	

* As defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 01/01/2019 for a period of 9 months