Context and Investment Case

One of the strongest El Niño events ever recorded places the lives of 26.5 million children at risk of malnutrition, water shortages and disease in ten countries in Eastern and Southern Africa. UNICEF is responding to four primary needs:

1. Over 1 million children are in need of treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in the region.
2. Water shortages remain a key concern. Many health facilities and schools are in critical need of improved water supply and sanitation facilities to enable the continuity of services.
3. Children face protection risks as families and communities move in search of work, food, water and grazing land for animals. Children are also finding it difficult to stay in school, due to hunger and/or lack of water.
4. In Southern Africa in particular, the global epicentre of the AIDS pandemic, drought is making life even more precarious for children affected by HIV.

Governments and partners have been responding since 2015, but the scale of the crisis has outstripped the coping capacities of communities and the resources of government, putting decades of development gains at risk. Urgent investment is required as the end of this crisis is not in sight. It is likely to continue well into 2017, and may be further compounded by the coming La Niña which would bring more erratic weather conditions.

Already in the first months of 2016 UNICEF has reached:
- 155,000 children with SAM treatment
- 2.69 million people with clean water
- 82,000 children with protection services
- 100,000 people with HIV education and services

To provide the comprehensive emergency response, UNICEF still urgently needs US$127 million of the US$226 million goal:
- US$33 million for lifesaving treatment for malnourished children, including treatment for SAM
- US$28 million for the WASH response
- US$8 million for child protection services
- US$4 million for provisions of HIV education and access to services
- US$47 million for education, immunization, social protection, and other sectoral services.

El Niño
Eastern & Southern Africa Region
Investment Case
23 June 2016

UNICEF 2016 El Niño Funding Requirements By Country

US$226 million

Ethiopia $97.5 million
Somalia $13 million
Zimbabwe $22.5 million
Malawi $13 million
Lesotho $9.1 million
Swaziland $3 million
Mozambique $8.8 million
Madagascar $25.4 million
Eritrea $12 million
Angola $21.5 million
Regional coordination $1 million
Funding Requirements

Together with partners, UNICEF can bring life-saving support for urgent needs and also ensure that the significant development progress that has been achieved for children over the last few decades is not reversed by the effects of El Niño. The table below outlines the funding needs by country, with detailed overviews in subsequent pages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total 2016 Humanitarian Requirements (US$)</th>
<th>El Niño 2016 Humanitarian Response Requirements (US$)</th>
<th>Funds received* (US$)</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
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</table>

*Funds received includes funds received in 2016 and 2015 carryforward year-end programmable.

Who to contact for further information

Leila Pakkala
Regional Director
ESA Regional Office
Tel: +254-20-762-2226
Email: lpakkala@unicef.org

Megan Gilgan
Regional Emergency Advisor
ESA Regional Office
Tel: +254-20-762-2176
Email: mgilgan@unicef.org

James Elder
Regional Communications Advisor
ESA Regional Office
Tel: +254-20-762-212727
Email: jelder@unicef.org
Country by Country Overview

ANGOLA

Situation Overview
Due to the compounded impact of El Niño and four seasons of lower than average rainfall, 1.4 million people are affected by drought in the country, of which 756,000 are children. Of the affected children, over 95,877 are suffering from SAM while rates of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) range from 15 per cent to 21 percent, exceeding the emergency threshold. Over 800,000 people remain food insecure in the most affected Provinces of Cunene, Namibe and Huila. Water reserves have been depleted with 80 per cent of boreholes in Cunene non-functional. Health risks have also spiked including an outbreak of Yellow Fever which has led to the death of 258 people between January and April 2016, with concerns that the entire population of the country is at risk.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF Angola plans to reach 1.4 million people affected by drought and 6.7 million at risk of Yellow Fever through humanitarian response in the sectors of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), Nutrition, Health, Child Protection and Education in 2016. UNICEF Angola requires $21.5 million in 2016 to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children through the following interventions:

- 37,800 children with SAM under 5 admitted into therapeutic treatment programmes.
- 672,000 children 6-59 months vaccinated for measles.
- 6.7 million people reached with preventive messages and information on Yellow Fever.
- 3.6 million children vaccinated for Yellow Fever.
- 120,000 people provided with access to safe water (7.5-15L per person per day).
- 45,000 people provided with access to appropriately designed toilets.
- 5,000 school aged children, including adolescents, provided with temporary learning spaces equipped with education and recreation kits.

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Angola, see the links below:

- UNICEF Angola 2016 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal:  
  http://www.unicef.org/appeals/angola.html
- UNICEF Angola Humanitarian Situation Reports:  
  http://www.unicef.org/appeals/angola_sitreps.html

ERITREA

Situation Overview
In Eritrea, the effects of El Niño and pre-existing stressors, related to household food and livelihood security, have exacerbated women and children’s vulnerability, leading to high levels of malnutrition among children under 5, especially in the lowlands. Acute malnutrition remains one of the major underlining causes of death in the country.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF Eritrea plans to reach 545,000 (including 445,000 children) through humanitarian interventions aimed at mitigating the impacts of the drought and other humanitarian situations affecting vulnerable populations, in the sectors of WASH, Nutrition, Health, Child Protection and Education throughout 2016. A main area of focus for UNICEF, with partners, will be the reduction of nutrition insecurity exacerbated by El Niño, with the scale up of effective treatment of malnutrition, prevention and resilience building. UNICEF Eritrea requires $12 million to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño in 2016. UNICEF’s planned response in 2016 includes:

- 13,000 children with SAM under 5 admitted into therapeutic treatment programmes.
- 180,000 children under 5 and lactating women benefitting from blanket supplementary feeding.

- 30,000 out-of-school children from drought prone nomadic communities provided with access to quality basic education.

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Eritrea see the links below:

ETHIOPIA

Situation Overview
Since the end of 2015, Ethiopia has been experiencing one of the worst droughts in the past few decades, as two seasons of failed rains have resulted in 10.2 million people, including 6 million children facing severe food insecurity and at a heightened risk of disease due to a significant lack of safe water in six most affected regions of Ethiopia (Afar, Amhara, Oromia, Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples’ Region, Somali, Tigray). Over 5.9 million people require access to safe drinking water. Children’s protection and safety has been undermined with one million children in need of protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence. Some 2.1 million school-age children and adolescents are unable to access quality education due to the drought. Currently, 2.5 million children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women require treatment for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and the number of children under 5 requiring SAM treatment has increased from 435,000 to 458,000. The Belg rains (February to May) brought some respite to many drought affected areas and improved access to water. However, heavy rains in many regions led to floods and landslides that resulted in the deaths of hundreds including children, and more than 237,000 people displaced since March 2016. The onset of the Kiremt rainy season (mid-June to September) is expected to be normal to above normal. However, with the La Niña phenomenon forecasted and with saturation of soil following healthy Belg rains, the risk of flood occurrence is expected to be high.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF Ethiopia plans to reach 8 million people (including 6.8 million children) through humanitarian interventions aimed at mitigating the impacts of the drought in the sectors of WASH, Nutrition, Health, Child Protection and Education throughout 2016. Specifically in nutrition, UNICEF and WFP have developed a Nutrition Response Plan focusing on minimizing the impact and addressing the growing food and nutritional crisis. UNICEF Ethiopia requires $97.5 million to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño in 2016. UNICEF’s planned response in 2016 includes:
- 458,000 children under 5 years with SAM admitted to therapeutic care programmes.
- 2.2 million people provided with access to safe water.
- 430,000 school-aged children provided with access to emergency education programmes.
- 5.8 million children provided with access to health care facilities stocked with essential supplies and drugs.

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Ethiopia see the links below:

LESOTHO

Situation Overview
In Lesotho, one quarter of the population is affected by widespread drought, which is aggravating high levels of vulnerabilities for a country in which 34 per cent of children are orphans, 57 per cent of people live below the poverty line, and almost one in four adults live with HIV/AIDS. Approximately, 534,508 people are food insecure with chronic malnutrition prevalence at 33 per cent, while the underweight prevalence is at 12.3 per cent. The drought has led to a decline in access to safe water
with 23 per cent of communities using unprotected water sources, while increases in diarrhea cases have been reported in health facilities in recent months.

**UNICEF Response**

UNICEF Lesotho plans to reach 534,508 people (including 310,000 children) through humanitarian interventions aimed at mitigating the impacts of the drought in the sectors of WASH, Nutrition, Health, HIV/AIDS, Child Protection and Education throughout 2016. **UNICEF Lesotho requires $9.1 million** in 2016 to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño through the following interventions:

- 2,445 children with SAM admitted to therapeutic treatment programmes.
- 58,000 children under 5 provided with micronutrient supplementation.
- 38,000 vulnerable families provided with social cash transfers
- 133,000 people (including 77,000 children) provided with safe water (7.5-15L per person per day).
- 534,500 people affected by drought provided with access to HIV/AIDS information and services.

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Lesotho see the links below:

- **UNICEF Lesotho 2016 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal:**
- **UNICEF Lesotho Humanitarian Situation Reports:**

**MADAGASCAR**

**Situation Overview**

The combination of a poor 2014/2015 season and an extreme early dry spell during the 2015/2016 rainy season over southern and western Madagascar has resulted in an intense drought. It is estimated that 1.1 million people are food insecure in seven districts of southern Madagascar (80% of the population) and about 665,000 people are in need of urgent emergency support until the end of the 2016/2017 lean season. Since October 2015, levels of malnutrition have begun to rise, in some areas reaching emergency thresholds. On 22 March 2016, the Government declared a state of emergency for southern Madagascar.

**UNICEF Response**

UNICEF will continue to support government efforts to expand essential social services to affected populations through community-based interventions in the sectors of Nutrition, Health, Child Protection, Education and WASH. **UNICEF Madagascar requires $25.4 million** to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño in 2016. UNICEF’s planned response in 2016 includes:

- 15,000 children with SAM admitted to therapeutic treatment programmes.
- 665,000 people (including 312,550 children) provided with safe water (7.5-15L per person per day)
- 2,000 children provided with psychosocial support services
- 25,000 school-aged children, including adolescents, continue to access quality education

**MALAWI**

**Situation Overview**

Malawi is experiencing its worst food security crisis in over a decade with 2.8 million people, including 1.5 million children, currently food insecure. Cases of SAM have increased by 100 per cent from December 2015 to January 2016. With more than 42.4 per cent of all children in Malawi already stunted, there are concerns of increased malnutrition rates and a higher likelihood of water-borne diseases, such as cholera, to which two thirds of Malawi’s districts are prone. In addition, poor coping mechanisms in response to shocks have affected school attendance in the hardest hit areas of the country (central and southern regions). A cholera outbreak, which began in December 2015, continues to be a challenge with over 1,000 cases and 21 deaths registered to date in the country.
UNICEF Response
In 2016, UNICEF Malawi is targeting 882,000 people (including 453,500 children) for humanitarian interventions in Health, WASH, Nutrition, Education and Child Protection, which are using integrated approaches to address cross-cutting themes, including HIV/AIDS and Communication for Development (C4D). **UNICEF Malawi requires $13 million** in 2016 to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño. In 2016, UNICEF’s planned response includes:
- 34,000 children under 5 with SAM enrolled in therapeutic feeding programmes.
- 100,000 people with access to sanitation/temporary latrines.
- 10,000 vulnerable women and children with access to protection messages to expand knowledge on protection services and service points.

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Malawi see the links below:

**MOZAMBIQUE**

Situation Overview
As a result of El Niño, Mozambique is facing its worst drought in 30 years, especially in the southern provinces and parts of the central region. 1.5 million people in seven provinces (Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Tete, Manica, Sofala and Zambezia) are facing food insecurity and nutritional crisis, with 191,000 children expected to be acutely malnourished over the next 12 months. Global Acute Malnutrition rates for children under 5 are 15% in Sofala and Tete provinces.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF’s humanitarian response is focusing on the critical areas of WASH and Nutrition, to complement both the Government and Humanitarian Country Team interventions. In WASH, UNICEF will focus on ensuring continuous access to safe drinking water through water trucking to the most affected communities, rehabilitation and upgrading of existing community water points, distribution of chlorine water treatment products and the drilling of new boreholes. In Nutrition, UNICEF’s interventions will focus on the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition in children, supporting Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and supporting nutrition coordination and information management.

**UNICEF Mozambique requires $8.8 million** to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño in 2016. UNICEF’s planned response in 2016 includes:
- 27,500 Children under 5 years with severe acute malnutrition admitted into therapeutic feeding programmes.
- 120,000 People provided with access to safe water (7.5–15L per person per day).
- 150,000 Pregnant and lactating women reached with IYCF.

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Mozambique see the link below:

**SOMALIA**

Situation Overview
Due to the El Niño related drought in Somaliland and Puntland, an estimated 1.7 million people or nearly 40 percent of the 4.6 million people living in Puntland and Somaliland are in need of some humanitarian assistance and livelihood support. Of these, 1.3 million are at risk of slipping into acute
food insecurity if they do not receive assistance and nearly 385,000 people already face acute food insecurity. Nearly 100,000 children under 5 are acutely malnourished and in urgent need of treatment. The number of children enrolled in nutrition programmes has increased in the most affected regions and water sources are overstretched. An increase of acute watery diarrhea cases have been recorded at health centers in Puntland and Somaliland, as communities share the only available and unprotected water sources with livestock. There are also concerns that children will be separated as communities and livestock are on the move in search of water, grazing areas and rains, and thousands of children could soon lose access to education due to the drought. Furthermore, flash floods have been reported in some areas of Puntland and Somaliland due to heavy rains, with a likelihood of additional rain and increased flooding within Somaliland, Puntland (especially in Bari and Nugaal regions) and the central parts of the country. This is likely to exacerbate the risk of water borne diseases and further displacement.

UNICEF Response

In Puntland and Somaliland, UNICEF is working to increase access to safe water in areas where there is no reliable water sources. To date, 10 boreholes have been repaired and 50,000 households in Somalia have been provided with vouchers to enable access to safe water. In addition, UNICEF and WFP have joined efforts to respond to the deteriorating food and malnutrition situation, through the provision of an integrated package of lifesaving humanitarian assistance, which includes food assistance, nutrition programmes, and health and WASH services. Health and nutrition services are also provided through the deployment of 21 mobile teams in Puntland reaching close to 13,000 children under five with emergency nutrition and health care, including immunizations, to date. To ensure children remain in school, UNICEF is working with WASH and Food Security partners on the provision of water and food for schools, as well as the distribution of emergency education supplies for schools receiving internally displaced children. **UNICEF Somalia requires $13 million** to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño, particularly in Puntland and Somaliland. UNICEF’s planned response in 2016 includes:

- 108,800 children under 5 years suffering from SAM admitted to therapeutic treatment programmes.
- 642,000 people provided with safe water (7.5-15L per person per day).
- 445,000 children under 1 year immunized against measles.

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Somalia see the links below:


**SWAZILAND**

Situation Overview

Swaziland is currently experiencing its worst drought in years, which has significantly decreased crop production, killed livestock and devastated livelihoods throughout the country. Over 320,000 people are affected (including 189,000 children) by the drought, with more than 200,000 people food insecure. Children are at serious risk of malnutrition, with already over 1,000 cases of SAM reported in the country and pre-drought rates showing over 25 per cent of children under 5 years are stunted. The drought is further exacerbating levels of vulnerability among the population which are compounded by chronic food and nutrition insecurity, high rates of HIV/AIDS (26% prevalence rate), poverty and protection concerns, including gender based violence (GBV). WASH facilities have been affected, with water shortages evident throughout the country. The drought has threatened children’s education as schools are facing critical water shortages.

UNICEF Response

UNICEF Swaziland is focusing on providing access to life saving WASH, health and nutrition services for women and children, as well as critical education and children protection services in the two most drought affected areas of the country. UNICEF Swaziland’s humanitarian planning figures are
320,000 people (including 189,000 children) to be reached through interventions to mitigate the impacts of the drought throughout 2016. **UNICEF Swaziland requires $3 million** to respond to the urgent needs of women in children affected by El Niño through the following interventions:

- 6,000 children 6-59 months affected by acute malnutrition (1,000 SAM cases and 5,000 MAM cases) provided with therapeutic treatment.
- 74,000 children in schools provided with access to safe water and appropriate sanitation facilities.
- 50,000 women and children reached with messages on protection services and service points.
- 64,000 people provided with access to safe water (7.5-15L per person per day).

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Swaziland see the links below:

- **UNICEF Swaziland 2016 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal:**  
  http://www.unicef.org/appeals/swaziland.html
- **UNICEF Swaziland Humanitarian Situation Reports:**  
  http://www.unicef.org/appeals/swaziland_sitreps.html

**ZIMBABWE**

**Situation Overview**

In Zimbabwe, an estimated 2.8 million people, including 1.3 million children, are facing food and nutrition insecurity, while the drought has resulted in reduced water yields from the few functioning boreholes exacerbating the risk to water-borne diseases, especially diarrhea and cholera. An assessment conducted in January 2016 revealed a GAM rate of 5.7 per cent, the highest ever recorded in the past 15 years. The SAM rate is also critical at 2.1 per cent. Women and girls face a heightened risk of protection concerns and loss of education due to socioeconomic roles, including supporting vulnerable family members and migrating to cities in search of work.

**UNICEF Response**

In 2016, UNICEF Zimbabwe plans to reach 1.3 million people (including 625,000 children) with critical humanitarian interventions in the sectors of WASH, Nutrition, Health, HIV/AIDS, Child Protection and Education. **UNICEF Zimbabwe has increased its 2016 requirement to $21.8 million** to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño. UNICEF plans to support the El Niño response through the following interventions:

- 14,000 children aged 6 to 59 months affected by SAM admitted to community-based treatment programmes.
- 325,000 people affected by emergencies provided with access to safe water.
- 73,000 vulnerable families provided with social cash transfers.
- 347,000 children vaccinated for measles.

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Zimbabwe see the links below:

- **UNICEF Zimbabwe 2016 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal:**  
  http://www.unicef.org/appeals/zimbabwe.html
- **UNICEF Zimbabwe Humanitarian Situation Reports:**  
  http://www.unicef.org/appeals/zimbabwe_sitreps.html

**Regional Coordination & Support to El Niño Affected Countries**

Given the scale of the El Niño crisis, UNICEF’s Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) has deployed a sub-regional coordinator for Southern Africa and continues to provide regional coordination and technical guidance and support to UNICEF Country Offices responding to El Niño across the region. In addition, UNICEF is supporting the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Secretariat with specialised expertise in WASH and Nutrition. **UNICEF ESARO requires US$1 million** to support the humanitarian response to women and children affected by El Niño in 2016.