



Girls care! Fatuma Yayo holds her neighbour, nine-months-old Fatuma Ibrahim, at Faro health post in Afar region, Ethiopia. ©UNICEF Ethiopia/2018/Demissew Bizuwerk

ETHIOPIA

Humanitarian Situation Report



SitRep # 9 – Reporting Period September 2018

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- At mid-year, Ethiopia was faced with an unprecedented caseload of 2.6 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) affected by conflict and drought, mainly along the Oromia regional border with Somali and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region (SNNPR) with children constituting more than half of the displaced population. In line with these changes, UNICEF has revised its Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) for 2018 and raised the resource envelope to US\$ 123.8 million.
- Following the signing of the Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship on 09 July between the governments of Ethiopia and Eritrea, two border crossing points were reopened on 11 September resulting in an increase in individuals arriving daily from Eritrea from an average of 50 to approximately 180.
- UNICEF has distributed 300,000 tablets of soap, 15,000 buckets, and 15,000 jerry cans to IDPs in East Hararghe and West Guji through the Regional Water Bureau (RWB). In West Hararghe and Bale, ongoing hygiene promotion and AWD awareness activities by the Regional Health Bureau (RHB) have reached 23,299 people.

UNICEF's response with partners

	UNICEF		Sector/Cluster	
	UNICEF* Target	Total Results	Cluster Target	Total Results
Nutrition: children under 5 years with SAM admitted for treatment to therapeutic care programme	363,611	200,554**	350,111	198,469**
Health: people provided with access to essential and life-saving health care services	400,000	365,802		
WASH: people accessing safe water	3,320,000	2,791,843	6,050,000	7,062,660
Child Protection: vulnerable children receiving psychosocial support	58,300	46,254	30,000	29,913
Education: school-aged children with access to emergency education	363,000	14,789	2,190,000	1,612,269

*UNICEF targets and results include refugee population
 **SAM admissions are from January to July

7.9 million*

People in need of relief food/cash

363,611**

Children in need of treatment for severe acute malnutrition

2.2 million*

School-aged children, including adolescents, in need of emergency school feeding and learning material assistance

2.6 million***

Internally displaced people in Ethiopia (79 per cent displaced due to conflict)

905,831**** Registered refugees and asylum seekers in Ethiopia.

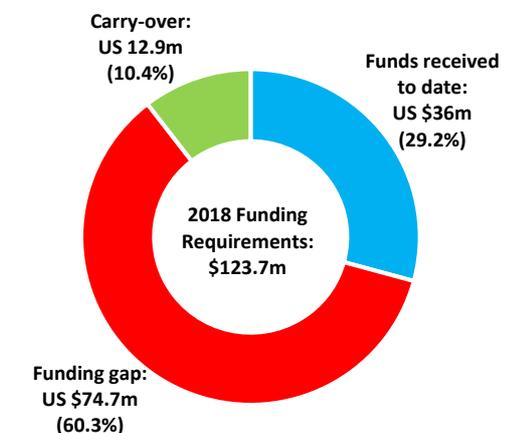
*2018 Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan for Ethiopia, March 2018

** UNICEF Revised HAC, August 2018

*** DTM Ethiopia National Dashboard Round 11, (IOM May-June 2018) and UNOCHA- West Guji/Gedee Situation Update #7, August 1

**** Ethiopia, refugees and asylum seekers (UNHCR, 31 August 2018)

Funding Status 2018



Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Following the signing of the Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship in July by the governments of Ethiopia and Eritrea, two border crossing points were reopened resulting in an increase in the number of new arrivals from Eritrea. Between 12 and 20 September, 1,700 refugees were registered at the Endabaguna Reception Centre. Per the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA), women and children under 15 years of age make up 80 per cent of the arrivals, in contrast with the current population profile of the Eritrean refugee camps in Tigray where women and children constitute 63 per cent of the refugee population. The change is attributed to the reopened border crossing points which have made it easier for women and children to transit safely. While ARRA and UNHCR field staff are analysing these shifting trends, registration data indicates that, in addition to the standard reasons for leaving Eritrea, family reunification is cited as a motive for movement by at least 88 per cent of the newly registered. UNICEF is conducting an assessment to know the caseload and understands the needs related to the influx.

The Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners are committed to assisting Gedeo-West Guji IDPs who choose not to return to their areas of origin at this time, as well as to those who are voluntarily returning. The IDP situation in West Guji (Oromia) and Gedeo (SNNP) remains fluid. As of 14 August, the number of IDPs stands at 694,327 persons in Gedeo zone and 189,010 persons in West Guji zone. Considering the ongoing returns, the government and partners are finalizing a new response/recovery plan for the Gedeo-West Guji IDPs/returnees. The joint plan will ensure that there is coordinated and uninterrupted support to IDPs in current areas of displacement and pre-positioning of staff and relief items in areas of return.

On 13 September, clashes broke out on the outskirts of Addis Ababa. Some 12,000 people were displaced and sheltered in nine different locations. UNICEF through the Ethiopian Red Cross (ERC) supported 1,400 most vulnerable women and children with WASH, child protection and Non-Food Items (NFIs) which included dignity kits, personal hygiene materials and mattresses. The displaced have since been returned to their homes.

The Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET) reported that in September, large areas of Eastern Somali Region, border pastoral areas of Oromia (parts of Guji and Borena) and Somali regions, parts of East and West Hararghe in Oromia, and West Guji of Oromia and Gedeo of SNNPR remained with the highest food insecurity. These areas were projected to remain in 'crisis' Phase 3 through January 2019, per the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC). Based on this and other early warning mechanisms, UNICEF, through its support to the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), contributed to the revision of the hotspot classification for the country. The revision shows that 215 *woredas* have been classified as hotspot priority one, 133 *woredas* as priority two and 96 *woredas* as priority three. Compared to the January 2018 classification, no major change was seen in the number of priority one *woredas* but a drop in the number of priority two and a slight increase in the number of priority three *woredas* have been noted.

At mid-year, Ethiopia was faced with an unprecedented caseload of 2.6 million people internally displaced by conflict and drought, mainly along the borders between Oromia and the Somali and SNNP regions with children constituting more than half of the IDPs. According to FEWSNET, weather forecasts for the 2018 *Kiremt* season indicate above normal rainfall for much of Ethiopia. While this is a relief in some areas, it is expected that 2.5 million people will be at risk of large scale flooding and landslides, potentially displacing an additional 637,000. In line with these contextual changes, UNICEF has revised its 2018 HAC and raised the resource envelope from US\$111.8m to US\$123.8m.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

Ethiopia continues to face a complex humanitarian situation that is characterised by chronic and acute needs. To date, the government has been leading humanitarian partners in the response to IDP displacements in Oromia and SNNP Regions, as well as the drought and conflict affected people along the Somali/Oromia border. UNICEF has also been leading internal coordination with IOM and WHO in an effort with Djibouti to stem cross-border Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) transmission through improved prevention messaging, high risk factor identification, and partner mapping to prepare for a potential response.

UNICEF, in its lead role in Nutrition, Education, WASH and Child Protection, has been supporting the government in coordination efforts to meet the needs of the most vulnerable women and children as well as providing adequate pipeline supplies as needed, including cluster inputs into the revision of the Humanitarian Disaster Resilience Plan (HDRP) which is ongoing.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF is working closely with the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) and the Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit (ENCU) to ensure that all affected children are receiving life-saving nutrition treatment services through the implementation of quality treatment services and an effective and efficient coordination mechanism.

The mid-year revision of the HAC was conducted to reflect the current situation in the country. The revised HAC will be used to engage donors for additional funds to meet the requirements of women and children as well as serving as an update of UNICEF's contribution to the government-led Humanitarian Disaster Resilience Plan (HDRP) launched in March 2018.

Summary Analysis of the Programme Response

Nutrition

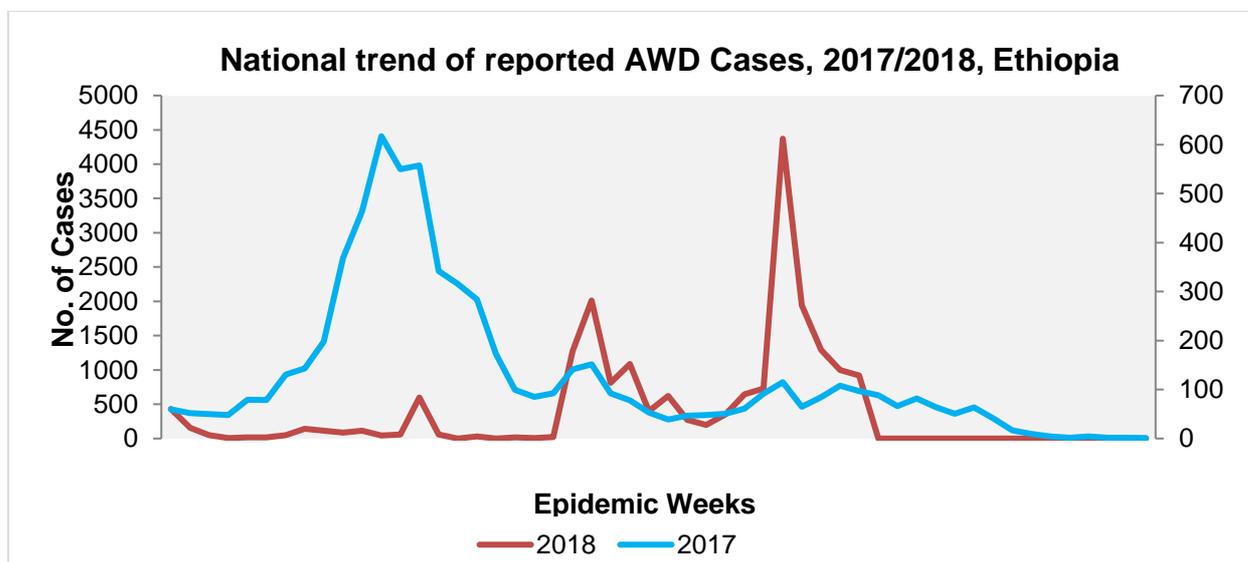
UNICEF's nutrition programme continues to support the government's efforts in responding to the complex emergencies in the country. Between January and July, through the cluster, a total of 198,467 children¹ were admitted for treatment of SAM with programme performance results above the acceptable Sphere standards² (91 % recovery, 0.2% deaths and 1.5% default). Total admissions in July show a slight decrease by 1,105 children on the 30,579 recorded in June. However, the reporting rate for July was 84.2 percent, which is the lowest registered this year. Instability in the Somali region resulted in a very low reporting rate of 62 per cent, which reduced the overall reporting rate. Since the beginning of this year, new admissions were partially attributed to the vulnerabilities faced by many displaced children along the Oromia/Somali regional border and in Gedeo and West Guji zones of SNNP and Oromia regions.

To track children affected by SAM in the returnee population in Kercha *woreda* of West Guji zone, UNICEF supported the screening of all children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women. A total of 357 children were screened out of which eight were identified with SAM and 68 with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). Of the 153 pregnant and lactating women screened, 130 were moderately malnourished, which can be attributed to the lack of and delays in general food distribution and targeted supplementary feeding prior to and after their return. All children with SAM were referred to existing outpatient therapeutic feeding programmes.

UNICEF is supporting emergency nutrition and cluster coordination for the IDPs in Gedeo-West Guji zones and Oromia-Somali. In the Somali region, UNICEF continues to monitor access to essential services and is mapping available supplies and NGO partners even as service provision and utilization remains hindered by the unstable security situation. Currently, adequate stocks for SAM management are available in the region; the shortage of Stabilization Centre treatment kits was resolved during the reporting month. ENCU and UNICEF are advocating for the return and resumption of activities by NGO partners and UNICEF has put in place a weekly monitoring schedule with partners to collect information from all zones about the situation in the region.

Health

Ethiopia continues to experience an AWD outbreak. From January to September, a total of 2,989 cases were reported nationally as per the following regional breakdown: Tigray (1,621), Ethio-Somali (124), Afar (1,209), Oromia (21) and Amhara (14). However, the number of AWD cases reported in 2018 is significantly lower than was reported in the same period in 2017, as depicted by the graph below.



From 22 August to 22 September, 774 AWD cases were reported with the regional breakdown as follows: Tigray (739), Amhara (14) and Oromia (21). In Tigray, AWD cases were reported from several *woredas* in seven zones. The main risk factors were consumption of contaminated water from holy water sites and unprotected shallow wells. Amhara and Oromia regions initiated an AWD alert in September with Armachio *woreda* in Amhara and Gumbi Bordode *woreda* in Oromia reporting 14 and 21 cases respectively.

From the start of the year up to 31 August, 365,802 medical consultations were conducted through the Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs): 151,359 in Afar and 214,443 in the Somali region. Health care services were delivered to 10,644

¹ This figure excludes refugee children and represents the official reports provided by the National Health Cluster

people, 41.5 per cent of whom were children under five and 33.2 per cent were women. In the Somali region, most MHNTs were not operational in August due to civil unrest. These medical consultations were performed by 49 UNICEF-supported MHNTs in Somali and Afar regions plus additional 17 MHNTs in Somali region run by the RHB and INGOs to whom UNICEF provides drugs and medical supplies.

Since January 2018 to date, 11,103 South Sudanese refugee children have received polio vaccines while 10,409 children received measles vaccination upon arrival at entry points. In September, 115 children under 15 years of age were vaccinated against both polio and measles in Gambella through UNICEF-supported RHB entry-point teams. UNICEF continued to support primary health care services for IDPs in Gedeo and West Guji through technical assistance and provision of emergency drug kits. Two UNICEF health specialists from Addis Ababa were seconded to provide technical assistance in Tigray during the AWD outbreak.

WASH

In August and September, UNICEF has provided household water treatment chemicals to households in Oromia, Tigray, Somali and Amhara regions, benefitting an estimated 700,490 people. These households are in areas affected by water shortages, AWD, flooding, and high population density.

Access to safe and adequate water for the IDPs in Oromia region continues to be a challenge due to displacement and drought in some areas. UNICEF continues to support with 46 water trucks in East and West Hararghe, Bale, West Guji and Guji. In East Hararghe and West Guji, UNICEF has distributed 300,000 tablets of soap, 15,000 buckets, and 15,000 jerry cans to IDPs through the Regional Water Bureau (RWB). Hygiene promotion and AWD awareness activities are ongoing through the RHB, reaching 23,299 people in West Hararghe and Bale.

UNICEF is currently rehabilitating water schemes and extending pipelines to areas that do not have safe water in Gedeo and West Guji. So far, 147,330 people have been reached with hygiene promotion. Some 49,000 people have benefited from the construction of 101 latrine blocks (490 squat holes) in collective centres in Gedeo, including regular cleaning and maintenance of the facilities.

In the Somali Region, UNICEF and the RHB have stepped up hygiene promotion activities to prevent and respond to AWD outbreaks. So far, 8,244 displaced people have been reached with hygiene promotion and key behaviour change messages and distribution of soap and jerry cans in the affected *woredas* of Tuliguled, Waaji, Koraley, Dunduncad, Kulula, Sariir, Guriqayre and Xagaajin.

UNICEF's response to the AWD outbreak in Tigray, in cooperation with RHB, has resulted in water treatment chemicals being distributed to affected households. Some 2,000 WASH-related posters have also been distributed targeting community meetings, churches, holy water sites and AWD affected households. Mass media such as radio and mobile vans have been used to disseminate hygiene messages.

Child Protection

In September, thanks to UNICEF support, 17 unaccompanied children (7 girls, 10 boys) were reunified with their families, and 44 unaccompanied children (19 girls, 25 boys) were placed in alternative care arrangements in Oromia region. This is out of a total caseload of 1,093 girls and 1,560 boys (2,653) who were recorded as unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and registered by the Bureau of Women and Children Affairs Office (BoWCA) since the beginning of the year. UNICEF is in the process of supporting BoWCA to strengthen the documentation and verification of the remaining cases. UNICEF also provided 90 recreational kits to furnish Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs) in targeted IDP sites which benefited 4,445 children (2,288 girls, 2,157 boys) through psychosocial support services. In the same region, 1,221 girls and women received dignity kits, one gender-based violence (GBV) survivor was assisted to receive multi sectoral response services and 1,692 community members were reached through key messages on child protection and gender-based violence. Through the delivery of key messages, the IDPs were equipped with the necessary information on child protection risk factors, GBV concerns, prevention and risk mitigation measures.

In the SNNP Region, most IDPs have moved from collective centres to their places of origin in West Guji and to host communities of different *woredas/kebeles* (sub-districts) in Gedeo zone through the relocation process and secondary displacement respectively. Since this movement of IDPs was not monitored closely by child protection partners including BOWCA, tracking the already registered UASCs for regular follow up and case management has become a challenge. UNICEF is supporting child protection partners including BOWCA to verify the UASC data in the region. The total caseload of UASCs documented to date in Gedeo is 2,095 children (1,025 girls, 1070 boys), including 113 children (46 girls, 67 boys) reunified with their parents and 12 children (7 girls, 5 boys) placed in alternative care arrangements. In the reporting period, through the provision of recreational kits from UNICEF, 9,836 children (3,962 girls, 5,874 boys) received psychosocial support through access to these materials in the CFS's.

In Gambella region, 3,440 children (1,635 girls, 1,805 boys) received psychosocial support services within CFS and two male children were placed with foster parents as an alternative care arrangement. With UNICEF support, International Medical Corps conducted routine awareness-raising activities through various community mobilization strategies, reaching a total of 2,768 refugees (1,983 women, 785 girls) in Jewi and Terkidi refugee camps with five key GBV key messages. These messages focused on the benefits of early reporting within 72 hours and service availability (GBV Referral) in the camps.

The reopening of the Ethiopia-Eritrea border crossing points at Zalambesa and Bure led to an increase in new Eritrean asylum seekers (with the daily rate of arrivals increasing from an average of 50 individuals to approximately 180 individuals). Between 12 and 20 September, 1,700 refugees were registered at Endabaguna Reception Centre and 1,400 refugees showed up at a temporary collection centre at the border. Although exact figures still need to be confirmed, ARRA reports that 80 per cent of the new arrivals constitute women and children under 15 years of age (including unaccompanied minors). UNICEF, through its partners in Tigray Region, is closely monitoring the situation to see potential needs and areas of support.

Education

As the new Ethiopian academic year starts, the Federal Ministry of Education (FMOE) reports that from the previously occupied schools in Gedeo, 65 have been evacuated leaving six schools still hosting IDPs. Reports also confirm that most schools in the Gedeo zone started classes on 24 September with a total of 154,159 students (86,600 boys and 67,559 girls) registered so far. In addition, six out of 70 schools in Gedeo Zone that were previously occupied by IDPs have been cleaned, disinfected and latrines dislodged in preparation for the new academic year. WASH partners continue to prioritise this exercise.

Despite the back-to-school campaign that is ongoing in West Guji Zone, the number of school registrations for this academic year are low. UNICEF in collaboration with World Vision International will continue to monitor the situation through the cluster. UNHCR and NRC have agreed to rehabilitate and/or reconstruct 16 damaged schools in the affected areas to increase the probability of children returning to school.

The leadership vacuum in the regional education office in Somali has now been filled but critical gaps still exist at *woreda* level. In response to the needs of the displaced communities along the Oromia/Somali border, UNICEF in partnership with Islamic Relief and Organisation for Welfare and Development in Action have signed an agreement that will focus on pre-primary and primary education services reaching over 20,000 children from 4-14 years.

UNICEF, in collaboration with World Vision International, is providing cluster coordination services in West Guji zone through the deployment of an Education Specialist on surge capacity. UNICEF is meeting the financial cost of this deployment while also providing technical support to the coordination function. Through this deployment, the education clusters have been revitalized in the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) in both Dilla and Bule Hora with regular meetings being conducted.

USAID, through the Reading for Ethiopia's Achievement Developed (READ II) programme, has provided basic educational and recreational materials benefitting 147,731 IDP children in Oromia, Somali and SNNP regions through an MoU signed on 17 September with the respective regional education bureaus. The FMOE has also received support from the Chinese and Korean governments in the form of educational supplies for displaced children in the Gedeo/ West Guji zones and the Somali Region. Furthermore, MoE has requested support from 40 private factories for materials for the rehabilitation/construction of damaged schools in the Gedeo/West Guji Zones. The FMOE is planning to mobilize beneficiary communities to contribute labor and local materials.

Communication Advocacy and Partnership (CAP)

The visit of the UNICEF Representative to internally displaced families by conflict in Burayu and surrounding areas was highlighted on UNICEF Ethiopia's social media platforms. The content highlighted the needs of families taking shelter in a health centre and schools in Addis Ababa and the support provided by UNICEF. The updates received more than 15,000 engagements (likes, shares and positive comments) acknowledging UNICEF's support. *Addis Standard*, a local monthly magazine, also retweeted some of the posts.

Communication for Development (C4D)

Two local partners Belaya (in Gedeo) and MCMDO (in West Guji), have commenced implementation of an integrated C4D package in the IDP sites with a focus on exclusive breastfeeding, institutional delivery, hygiene and sanitation, and promotion of health-seeking behaviors. Health extension workers under the RHBs who spearhead health promotion and interpersonal communication activities in the community received a three-day training in these areas and is expected to enhance the response at IDP sites and strengthen the capacity of local actors to deliver key behavior change communication and prevention messages in response to disease outbreaks. UNICEF has continued to provide support in control and prevention of the AWD outbreak in Tigray. A day-long regional advocacy workshop on AWD, supported by UNICEF, was organized by the RHB and involved *woreda*, zonal and regional stakeholders. Consequently, the Tigray RHB

started to support the multi-sectoral coordination approach on AWD at zonal and district levels, and to distribute water purification products and C4D materials to the communities. UNICEF has also provided C4D materials prepared in the local language. Because of efforts from health, WASH and C4D, there is now a decline in new cases in the affected community.

Funding

UNICEF Ethiopia funding status as of 28 September 2018

Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
	US\$	Funds Received Current Year	US\$*	\$	%
Nutrition	47,349,123	14,576,365	4,373,071	28,399,687	60%
Health	16,047,402	3,154,367	1,791,444	11,101,591	69%
WASH	46,355,000	14,638,232	3,542,307	28,174,461	61%
Child Protection	5,183,401	2,397,611	1,339,356	1,446,434	28%
Education	8,859,136	1,424,449	1,877,059	5,557,628	63%
Total	123,794,062	36,191,024	12,923,237	74,679,801	60%

* In addition, UNICEF Ethiopia has supplies for nutrition, carried over to 2018 valued at US\$ 10 million

Next SitRep: 31 October 2018

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UNICEF Ethiopia Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/ethiopia.html>

Annex A

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS 2018

	Overall needs	Cluster Response			UNICEF and IPs		
		2018 Target	Total Results	Change since last report	2018 Target*	Total Results	Change since last report
NUTRITION							
Children under 5, including refugee children, treated for SAM	350,111	350,111	198,469**	29,255	363,611	200,554**	29,255
Children received vitamin A supplementation	-	-	-	-	1,500,000	6,044,086	1,968,519
HEALTH							
Women and children under 5 accessing essential maternal and child health services					400,000	365,802	25,671
People affected by acute watery diarrhoea accessing life-saving curative interventions					16,000	2,989	774
Children immunized against measles (refugee)					35,313	10,409	113
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE							
People have access to safe water of appropriate quality and quantity	10,239,130	6,050,000	7,062,660	555,010	3,320,000	2,791,843	73,249
People reached with key messages on hygiene practices	7,695,650	5,900,000	2,938,047	184,684	2,120,000	2,579,345	64,891
CHILD PROTECTION							
Girls and boys provided with psychosocial support, including access to child-friendly spaces with multi-sectoral programming interventions	30,000	30,000	29,913	14,281	58,300	46,254	17721
Unaccompanied and separated girls and boys reunified with their families and/or placed in appropriate alternative care	5,000	5,000	1134	186	12,760	1420	188
Children and women provided with risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions to address gender-based violence	65,000	55,000	12,354	2914	20,000	38,161	5682
EDUCATION							
School-aged children, including adolescents, accessing quality education	2,190,000	2,190,000	1,612,269**	0	363,000	14,789	0

* UNICEF target are from the revised HAC of August 2018 and include SS refugee figures.

**Nutrition result covers January to July 2018.

***Health result for MHNT is from January to August 2018

****Provision of school feeding programme by the Government reached 1,595,966 children in all regions.