



Mexico

Humanitarian Situation Report No.4



Earthquake Central & South Mexico

UNICEF staff visits shelter in Cuernavaca, Morelos where Johana (5 years) is staying with her family. @UNICEFMexico

Highlights.

- Government efforts are focusing on reconstruction and continued response to the affected populations. Oaxaca and Chiapas have finalized survey of damages and losses. People in these states will receive electronic cash for house reconstruction or purchase of construction materials. (Source: Presidencia de la República.27.09)
- The two earthquakes have resulted in 12,931 schools damaged in 9 states, of which 600 are severely damaged. (Source: SEP. 27.09)
- The Ministry of Education (MoE) is implementing the 8-step plan for a gradual return to school. All public schools must be officially certified for safety conditions to be declared fit for reopening. UNICEF continues negotiating with MoE for a larger scale intervention on affected schools.
- MoE estimates US\$716 million budget requirement for school repair and reconstruction. (Source: SEP. 27.09)
- UNICEF has made a public appeal for putting children at the centre of the private and public recovery and reconstruction plans.
- UNICEF's response plan on child protection has begun implementation in Oaxaca and Puebla. Chiapas and Morelos will start next week with the installation of child friendly spaces.
- Teacher's training on psychological support has started in Oaxaca; 100 school-in-a-box kits have been delivered to Puebla at MoE request.
- Fifty nursing and psychology students, who will be in charge of operating the child friendly spaces, were trained this week.
- Two additional child friendly spaces for psychosocial support were installed in Juchitán, Oaxaca, in partnership with Save the Children.

29 September 2017

7 million

estimated number of children living in states affected by the earthquakes (Oaxaca, Chiapas, Mexico City, Morelos and Puebla).

US\$ 4.6 million

Required by UNICEF Mexico for immediate and complementary response to the needs of children and adolescents in earthquake affected areas in both Central and Southern Mexico.



Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

In spite of Government efforts and investment plans to help families recover from the earthquakes, in terms of social protection, there are no clearly targeted compensation plans for affected families. Financial subsidies will be given only to those who are classified to be under 'patrimonial' poverty, wherein they could receive up to USD\$600 per household. UNICEF foresees the increase in the number of poor families, especially those which have lost their properties and other assets. Research, communication and advocacy efforts will be increased to propose targeted cash transfers in emergencies for families with children under 5 and for female headed households.

UNICEF Mexico continues to deploy staff to Oaxaca, Chiapas, Puebla and Morelos this week.

Oaxaca

Eight municipalities were visited and assessment conducted by UNICEF staff. In general, shelters have electricity, drinking water, kitchens, hygiene kits and health services, however they lack adequate hygiene, sanitation and handwashing facilities, and there are no separate bathrooms for children. In several cases, the Army is staying in the shelters alongside families with children. All shelters visited are found to have adequate conditions to install child friendly spaces. Three municipalities have particularly vulnerable conditions: Xadani (indigenous population, 70% of households damaged), Reforma de Pineda (migrant town with 2,700 inhabitants, 800 houses damaged) and San Blas Atempa (almost 1,000 people displaced, of which 390 are children, visible stress among population). UNICEF also visited macro-shelters (military-organized shelters) in Juchitan, which remain empty given the preference of families to stay near their houses. Population size in shelters might increase once demolitions start. Bad weather conditions (heavy rains) require special measures for child friendly spaces (CFS) and temporary learning spaces (TLS). Efforts in terms of disaster risk reduction are being made to ensure that CFS' and TLS' are not exposed to flooding or landslide hazards.

Morelos

There are 42 shelters in this state and 72 community kitchens. UNICEF staff visited 2 shelters in Jojutla, where temporary learning spaces will soon be established due to an increasing number of children present in these shelters.

Puebla

The Social Welfare Bureau (DIF) and the Ministry of Education (SEP) in Puebla have agreed to UNICEF proposals for child friendly spaces, temporary learning spaces and school-in-a-box kits. SEP has requested immediate delivery of school-in-a-box kits and school tents for its 70 collapsed schools.

Humanitarian Strategy and Response

The following response actions were implemented during the week of 25-29 September 2017.

Child Protection

- Two additional child friendly spaces for psychosocial support were installed in Juchitán, Oaxaca, in partnership with Save the Children.
- 50 nursing and psychology students, who will be in charge of operating the child friendly spaces, were trained this week. Next week another group of staff from World Vision will be trained in Chiapas.
- Visits were made to Puebla together with Juconi (implementing partner) to identify areas to install 5 more CFS. The same happened this week in Mexico City, with Tech Palewi (implementing partner).
- Two other spaces for shelters in Jojutla, Morelos were agreed upon with the Government of Morelos, and will be set-up next week.
- Guidelines for child protection, water, sanitation and hygiene were developed for shelters, at the request of DIF and SIPINNA.
- Work with the Attorney's Office for Protection for Children is ongoing to ensure protection of children against abuse, exploitation and violence.

Education

- Psychosocial support training for teachers: this week 30 teachers were trained on psychosocial skills in Juchitán, Oaxaca (28-29.09). Another 40 teachers will be trained in Chiapas next week.
- 100 school-in-a-box kits were delivered to the Ministry of Education in Puebla.
- The design of a C4D 'Back to school' campaign has started.

WASH

- An agreement has been signed with a local NGO (Cantaro Azul) to provide WASH facilities in shelters and temporary learning spaces.
- Complementary hygiene kits will be distributed in shelters in a few weeks when the private donations of supplies start decreasing.

C4D

- An intersectoral plan on key messages for nutrition, protection and education has been developed.
- UNICEF is planning on using U-Report to approach adolescents for inputs on children's situation and response needs.

Humanitarian Coordination

- The United Nations Emergency Team has organized sectoral working groups in response to the emergency. UNICEF is leading Education and WASH, and participating in 4 others (Protection, Health, Early Recovery and Communications).
- The Education working group, led by UNICEF, includes 20 institutions from government, civil society and private sector. 5 strategic areas are prioritized: 1) Return to school and training of teachers; 2) Reconstruction of classrooms & temporary learning spaces; 3) School in a box kits; 4) Curriculum; 5) WASH.
- Cooperation agreements for child friendly spaces have been signed with Juconi and Tech Palewi (civil society organizations).

Media and External Communication

- UNICEF continued with a strong presence and voice on the situation of children in the emergency in national newspapers, both online and print version, on TV and radio with interviews regarding the earthquake.
- In the last 18 days, since the first earthquake, UNICEF's followers' engagement on Twitter has increased from 3.9K to 24K. Facebook engagement grew from 4K to 140K.

Funding

- UNICEF Mexico requires US\$4.6 million to attend to the immediate needs of children and adolescents in terms of WASH, child protection, and education, in the five affected states.
- The local fundraising campaign has continued through all existing channels. Donations are on its way also from NATCOMs (Spain, US and Denmark) and from UNICEF Goodwill Ambassadors. To date, there are approximately USD\$3,000,000 in pledges from private sector and Natcoms.

Next SitRep:

- 6 October 2017
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