



# Somalia

## Humanitarian Situation Report No. 12



Reporting Period: 1 January to 31 December 2020

### Highlights

- Throughout 2020, UNICEF and implementing partners ensured the continuation and accessibility of essential health services to affected people in Somalia. Overall, the number of ante-natal care consultations and assisted deliveries increased by four per cent through the year.
- UNICEF curative, promotive and preventive services were at the core of the nutrition response throughout 2020 with key preventive services including 201,505 children (6 – 23 months) who were provided with micronutrient powders and one million pregnant and lactating women receiving Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling.
- A total of 860,000 people were reached with emergency water supplies, provided by water trucking/vouchers and routine disinfections of 1,344 shallow wells across south-central regions.
- There were 64,840 children who were supported with a comprehensive education package from UNICEF that included safe and protective learning spaces, teachers and school feeding.
- UNICEF reached a total of 49,044 children and caregivers in IDP and host communities with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services such as psychological first aid, structured activities and group counselling in 2020.

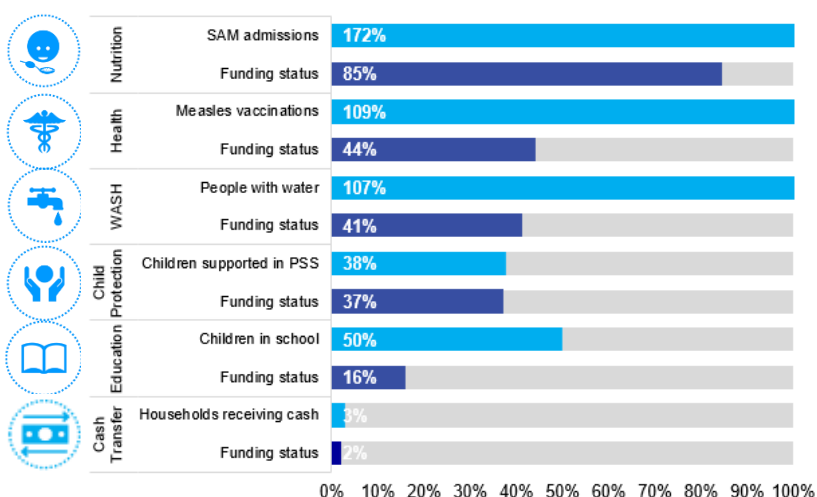
### Situation in Numbers

**3,200,000**  
 children in need of humanitarian assistance  
 (Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2019)

**5,200,000**  
 people in need  
 (Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2019)

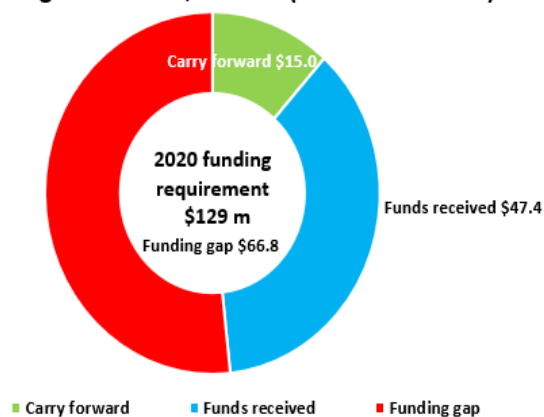
**2,600,000**  
 Internally displaced people (IDPs) or refugees  
 (Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2019)

### UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



### UNICEF Appeal 2020 US\$ 129 million

Funding Status in US\$ millions (HAC 2020 Somalia)



## Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2020, UNICEF appealed for **US\$ 129.1** million to sustain provision of life-saving services including critical nutrition, health, WASH, child protection and education in emergency interventions. The continued predictable, flexible and timely donor support was critical to sustaining vital response activities and preventing further deterioration of the situation in Somalia. The contributions that were made in 2020 enabled UNICEF and partners to ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance at scale as a result of water shortages, floods and conflict. Funds and supplies which were carried over from 2019 have supported the results achieved in 2020. UNICEF humanitarian programmes also benefit from resilience funding generously contributed by multiple different donors. Such resources help UNICEF contribute towards both humanitarian efforts and interventions at the nexus between humanitarian and development action for children. UNICEF Somalia would like to thank the generous contributions from BHA, FCDO, ECHO, CERF, Canada and the UNICEF German and Japanese National Committees to support the women and children of Somalia.

## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Somalia in 2020 continued to feel the impacts of climate change (through flash and riverine flooding), conflict, COVID-19 and the desert locust plague. These challenges continued to impact the ability of Somali children to survive and thrive. Education for children was severely disrupted in 2020 due to the closure of schools as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. To respond to the closures UNICEF implemented the eLearning passport which enabled children to continue their education through remote learning via the internet, television and radio learning. As well as responding to COVID-19, the UNICEF health programme continued with routine vaccinations for measles and polio and was able to gain access to previously inaccessible areas for vaccination campaigns within Somalia. This additional reach aided in mitigating the impacts of communicable diseases in vulnerable communities. Flash and riverine flooding throughout the year, including during the *Hagaa* dry season, displaced over 840,000 people in 2020 with UNICEF responding with safe water as well as hygiene kits and promotion to minimize risk of water born disease.

Moving forward to 2021, the challenging environment will likely continue for women, children and youth in Somalia. Parliamentary elections (delayed since late 2020) are scheduled as well as Presidential elections early in the year<sup>1</sup>. The impacts of La Nina will continue with an increased likelihood of below average rainfall in the upcoming *Gu* rains<sup>2</sup>. Favorable conditions for the breeding of desert locusts are likely to continue with new swarms being identified by the end of 2020 and into 2021. The Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was launched in December and is requesting US\$ 1.1 billion in support humanitarian programming in 2021. To support this, UNICEF Somalia launched its Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) which is requesting US\$129.8 million in 2021 to provide life-saving assistance to affected communities in Somalia.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Nutrition

From January to December 2020, UNICEF-supported nutrition facilities reached 245,296 children under five years affected by severe wasting (58.5 per cent girls). The total admissions of 2020 exceeded the UNICEF target for the year by 83.7 per cent for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) with over a 90 per cent recovery rate. UNICEF's curative, promotive and preventive services were at the core of the humanitarian response throughout 2020. Key preventive services included 201,505 children (6 – 23 months) who were provided with micronutrient powders, and one million pregnant and lactating women receiving Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling. UNICEF continued to reach children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in areas where there are no targeted supplementary feeding services, following a simplified protocol for MAM treatment which reached 24,977. Moving forward to 2021, strengthening the provision of comprehensive nutrition services will be key as this will ensure optimal programme performance and coverage, and strengthen the preventive component of the programme.

### Health

Throughout 2020, UNICEF and implementing partners ensured the continuation and accessibility of essential health services to affected people in Somalia. Out-patient clinic consultations (OPD) and the expanded programme on immunisation (EPI) service uptake decreased due to the impact of the pandemic (OPD by 11 per cent, EPI by 22 per cent) from April to June. However, over the remainder of 2020, UNICEF-supported health facilities recorded a two per cent increase in uptake of first curative OPD consultations and a three per cent increase in measles, Penta 1 and Penta

<sup>1</sup> Somalia Humanitarian Bulletin December 2020, OCHA  
<sup>2</sup> Food security cluster January 2021

3 vaccinations. Overall, the number of ante-natal care (ANC-1) consultations and assisted deliveries increased by four per cent through the year and ANC-4 by three per cent despite decreases seen in May and June. There were 64,292 mothers and their new-born babies supported with post-natal care (PNC-1) and 58,645 from PNC-2+ consultations. To facilitate service delivery, UNICEF released 438 essential medicine equipment kits, 198 midwifery kits and 347 acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) kits to partners and supported the training of 3,279 frontline and 1,941 community health workers on COVID-19 related issues. There were 491 health staff equipped with gowns and face shields for high-risk activities and for essential health service continuity.

## WASH

In 2020, UNICEF continued to respond to emerging humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations including IDPs, their host communities and others affected by drought, floods, conflict and AWD/cholera outbreaks. UNICEF Somalia focused on immediate short-term interventions for ensuring availability of life-saving assistance but with a strong focus on building resilience and sustainable systems, support to government structures and local communities.

The *Hagaa* and *Deyr* rainy seasons brought riverine and flash floods that affected vulnerable populations particularly for IDPs in Hirshabelle, South West, Jubaland states as well as Sanaag and Banadir regions. To improve access to safe water, provision of emergency water was concentrated in South-Central regions. A total of 860,000 people were reached with emergency water supplies, provided by water trucking/vouchers and routine disinfections of 1,344 shallow wells across south-central regions. In November, Cyclone Gati made a landfall in Bari region in Puntland causing flooding in Iskushuban and Bossaso districts significantly impacting access to safe water. UNICEF through partner organizations responded with hygiene kits to 26,000 people in these two districts.

As the pandemic continues to hinder hygiene promotion messaging through household visits, UNICEF-supported partners provided messaging through vehicle mounted loudspeakers and local radios to broadcast hygiene promotion messages. These mass media hygiene promotions were carried out in Bay, Bakool and Lower Juba regions. To enhance dignity amongst the emergency-affected women and adolescent girls, the distribution of Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits was enhanced reaching 113,000 women and girls, a 70 per cent increase from 2019.

## Education

UNICEF supported vulnerable and marginalized girls and boys, including IDPs, to access inclusive education services in 2020. There were 64,840 children who were supported with a comprehensive education package that included safe and protective learning spaces, training for teachers and school feeding. It also addressed the protection and safety needs for children by providing protection services including psychosocial support, child protection support and violence prevention and awareness creation to sensitize communities on children's safety. Training for 776 teachers was undertaken in pedagogic/psychosocial skills and supported with incentives to ensure the teachers were retained in schools. There were 42,695 children supported with safe-drinking water and 11,366 children supported with school feeding. Water storage tanks were installed in 57 schools and 46 IDPs schools were connected to piped water. School governance and management training was provided to 888 Community Education Committee members to support improved management of schools. There were 1,900 adolescent girls supported with dignity kits and training on menstrual-hygiene health to address school absenteeism. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education in the development of the "COVID-19 Education Response" and the Safe-School re-opening plans. Through this plan, 141,816 children accessed formal education and life skills-based distance learning through television, radio and online platforms.

## Child Protection

UNICEF reached a total of 49,044 children and caregivers in IDP and host communities with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services such as psychological first aid, structured activities and group counselling in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic prompted UNICEF partners to deliver services through remote modalities such as distance counselling, hotlines and social media. Partnerships with the Ministry of Defence and the Defectors Reintegration Programme resulted in the release and handover of 1,735 children formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups to UNICEF. These children received rehabilitation and reintegration support, such as safe shelter in 6 interim care centres, career orientation, vocational training, formal education, medical care and MHPSS. There were 11,778 registered unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) supported with family tracing and reunification services. UNICEF piloted the roll-out of CPIMS+ in Puntland and Somaliland strengthening case management and data management among child protection practitioners. Multi-sectoral services such as clinical, psychosocial, legal, transport and safe accommodation assistance were provided to 5,977 gender-based violence (GBV) survivors. As part of the COVID-19 response, approximately 11,429 calls were received on the GBV/Child hotlines. In addition, 92,240 people

received awareness messages on prevention of child recruitment, child marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), GBV and COVID-19.

### Cash-based Programming

The Nutrition Safety Net Cash Transfers in Wajid and Hudur districts of Bakool Region that started in October 2019 concluded in March 2020 with a total enrolment of 238 households with a transfer value of US \$20 per month for three consecutive months.

### Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement & Accountability

In 2020, 1.78 million people, including 14,810 nomadic populations, were reached during the mOPV2 campaigns in South Central regions and 1.5 million people reached with measles campaigns in Banadir, Kismayo and Puntland. Mass media campaigns, including the use of IEC materials, reached 6 million people. A total of 31,923 people were engaged in routine immunization for the latter half of the year, whilst female participation increased 18 per cent when compared with the first half of 2020. Mosque announcements also increased by 36 per cent, while people reached via radio broadcasts were estimated at over 3 million. The Deqa Booklet featuring a young Somali heroine promoting Education and COVID-19 prevention in schools was introduced, as well as two songs and a radio drama. Additionally, 600 radio spots on education and COVID-19 and 800 radio spots on maternal and child nutrition were broadcasted respectively reaching nearly 3 million people. Furthermore, a total of 3,446 people were reached through a series of child protection awareness sessions and using 860 IEC materials on FGM, GBV, child labour and COVID-19. There were 1,101 families who were provided handwashing demonstration sessions and hygiene and prevention messages on AWD/Cholera and COVID-19 during house-to-house mobilization visits.

### Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF's ongoing humanitarian action focuses on an integrated, inclusive, and multi-sectoral response to residual drought impact, displacement, conflict, disease outbreaks and seasonal floods. In line with the 2020 Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), as well as the Centrality of Protection Strategy, UNICEF's priorities are to provide life-saving services to address critical malnutrition and excess mortality, effectively respond to mounting protection threats and support resilience building and early recovery. UNICEF is also committed to implementing gender-responsive and socially inclusive humanitarian action to ensure those most in need receive the right life-saving services.

UNICEF leads the WASH and Nutrition Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility and co-leads the Education Cluster with Save the Children. The operational capacity of the UNICEF-led Clusters is significant, with a network of over 240 partners, including sub-regional coordinators in over 15 regions. The network facilitates access to information, coordination and interventions in hard-to-reach and inaccessible areas. UNICEF has also supported gender capacity strengthening through multiple training sessions for Clusters to ensure the drought preparedness and response is gender-responsive and inclusive, including access to gender-based violence (GBV) services and psychosocial support to separated or unaccompanied children. UNICEF and partners engage with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) on strengthening collaboration mechanisms for humanitarian response.

### Human Interest Stories and External Media

In 2020, multimedia content was produced to raise awareness on the impact of UNICEF's programmes to improve the lives of Somali children and women. The [response to the triple threat](#) of floods, locusts and the COVID-19 outbreak was emphasized, garnering strong [news coverage](#). With the Government and UN agencies, Communications highlighted challenges and solutions to promote the development of Somalia, including supporting the Ministry of Health in [launching the national micronutrient survey](#) and [continuing vaccination campaigns](#). From the onset of the pandemic, COVID-19 messages were disseminated through radio, billboards and posters. UNICEF's response activities were showcased through [videos](#), [fact sheets](#), [stories](#) and UNICEF Somalia's [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts. The secondary impact of COVID-19, including the [increase of GBV](#) and [impact of school closures](#), and UNICEF's response to these issues, such as the [deployment of student social workers](#), were highlighted through various materials. Donor branded content was produced to enhance donor visibility.

Next SitRep: 20 February 2021

UNICEF Somalia Crisis: <https://www.unicef.org/somalia/>

UNICEF Somalia Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/somalia.html>

**Who to  
contact for  
further  
information:**

**Mohamed Ayoya**  
Representative  
UNICEF Somalia  
Email: [mayoya@unicef.org](mailto:mayoya@unicef.org)

**Jesper Moller**  
Deputy Representative  
UNICEF Somalia  
Email: [jmoller@unicef.org](mailto:jmoller@unicef.org)

**Sara Karimbhoy**  
Emergency Manager  
UNICEF Somalia  
Email: [skarimbhoy@unicef.org](mailto:skarimbhoy@unicef.org)

## Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall needs	UNICEF and IPs			Cluster/AoR Response		
		2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼
<b>Nutrition*</b>							
# of boys and girls 6-59 months with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) admitted to therapeutic care through the simplified protocol	830,000	43,000 (21,930 G   21,070 B)	24,974 (12,403 G   12,571 B)	1,441 ▲	623,000 (317,730 G   305,270 B)	466,106 (243,464 G   222,642 B)	32,855 ▲
# of boys and girls 6-59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care	178,437	133,500 (68,085 G   65,415 B)	229,130 (126,106 G   103,024 B)	14,909 ▲	178,437 (91,003 G   87,434 B)	251,078 (131,496 G   119,582 B)	15,467 ▲
# of pregnant and lactating women receiving preventative services through supplementary nutrition	562,000	199,500	245,381	13,203 ▲	202,000	336,438	24,225 ▲
# of primary caregivers of children 0-23 months who received counselling on infant and young child feeding	N/A	650,000*	937,561	95,340 ▲	421,696	1,120,125	83,899 ▲
<b>Health</b>							
# of children vaccinated against measles		99,743 (50,869 G   48,874 B)	108,701 (58,620 G   50,181 B)	8,259 ▲			
# of emergency-affected pregnant woman receiving delivery services by skilled birth attendants		48,420	34,162	3,115 ▲			
# of people provided with access to essential and life-saving health care services		968,389 (264,719 G   254,337 B   229,160 W   220,173 M)	1,029,804 (266,286 G   242,781 B   308,271 W   212,466 M)	84,129 ▲			
% of communicable diseases outbreaks investigated and responded to in the first 72 hours		90%	100%	0			
<b>WASH</b>							
# of people reached with emergency water services in targeted settlements and communities.	2,400,000	800,000 (240,000 G   248,000 B   168,000 W   144,000 M)	858,809 (255,067 G   265,285 B   179,792 W   158,665 M)	2,890 ▲	2,229,199 (1,049,953 W   1,179,246 M)	958,357 (287,507 G   335,425 B   172,505 W   162,920 M)	3,978 ▲
# of people reached with hygiene promotion activities and hygiene kits distribution in vulnerable settlements and communities.	2,700,000	1,200,000 (360,000 G   372,000 B   252,000 W   216,000 M)	1,365,493 (393,492 G   404,713 B   297,927 W   269,361 M)	10,218 ▲	2,359,564 (1,111,355 W   1,248,209 M)	1,685,087 (505,527 G   589,780 B   303,316 W   286,464 M)	78,427 ▲
# of people reached with sanitation services in vulnerable settlements and communities.	1,800,000	220,000 (66,000 G   68,200 B   46,200 W   39,600 M)	228,611 (63,213 G   63,980 B   52,546 W   48,872 M)	10,620 ▲	980,221 (461,684 W   518,537 M)	330,369 (99,109 G   115,631 B   59,467 W   56,162 M)	36,920 ▲
# of people reached with sustainable access to safe water in targeted settlements and communities.	1,400,000	450,000 (135,000 G   139,500 B   94,500 W   81,000 M)	532,807 (156,906 G   162,684 B   112,884 W   100,333 M)	36,262 ▲	1,249,102 (588,327 W   660,775 M)	739,585 (221,875 G   258,856 B   133,126 W   125,728 M)	50,160 ▲
<b>Child Protection</b>							
# of children participating in community-based mental health and psychosocial support activities, including child friendly spaces	N/A	175,000 (80,000 G   80,000 B   10,000 W   5,000 M)	49,044 (15,830 G   20,541 B   7,943 W   4,730 M)	7,336 ▲	310,419 (90,022 G   108,647 B   58,980 W   52,271 M)	90,429 (35,814 G   37,831 B   10,670 W   6,114 M)	9,271 ▲
# of girls and boys formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups provided with reintegration support	4,000	2,000 (500 G   1500 B)	1,576 (290 G   1,286 B)	0	3,725 (1080 G   1304 B   708 W   633 M)	1,576 (290 G   1,286 B)	0
# of people targeted with rights-based public outreach and awareness raising activities	N/A	200,000 (80,000 G   80,000 B   20,000 W   20,000 M)	96,730 (23,596 G   26,445 B   27,704 W   18,985 M)	5,490 ▲	566,205 (164,199 G   198,172 B   107,579 W   96,255 M)	411,355 (122,685 G   107,227 B   100,527 W   80,916 M)	16,997 ▲

# of registered unaccompanied and separated children supported with reunification services, family-based care or appropriate alternative care	N/A	8,000 (3000 G  5000 B)	11,776 (4,565 G  7,211 B)	419 ▲	18,625 (8440 G  10,186 B)	19,492 (9,387 G  10,105 B)	1,368 ▲
# of survivors of gender-based violence accessing a package of GBV services (medical, legal, mental health, psychosocial support and materials)		3,000 (1400 G  70 B  1500 W  30 M)	5,977 (1,184 G  197 B  3,871 W  95 M)	492 ▲			
<b>Education</b>							
# children and youth accessing quality formal or non-formal primary education	1,300,000	130,000 (65,000 G  65,000 B)	64,840 (29,524 G  35,316 B)	0	307,283 (150,569 G  156,714 B)	581,942 (279,157 G  302,785 B)	66,165 ▲
# of classrooms constructed or rehabilitated with child friendly and inclusive (incl. children with disabilities) WASH facilities available to emergency-affected school children and youth	N/A	120	78	0	5,000	1,914	59 ▲
# of school children benefitting from emergency teaching and learning materials	1,300,000	130,000 (65,000 G  65,000 B)	21,074 (8,529 G  12,545 B)	0	307,283 (150,569 G  156,714 B)	262,281 (125,197 G  137,084 B)	23,871 ▲
# teachers supported with emergency incentives	N/A	800 (240 W  560 M)	558 (137 W  421 M)	0	7,300 (3,577 W  3,723 M)	11,311 (4,223 W  7,088 M)	761 ▲
<b>Cash Transfers</b>							
# of vulnerable households received cash transfers		8,000	238	0			

\* The Nutrition target is higher than the Nutrition Cluster target as UNICEF will be programming in an additional 14 districts.

# In order to ensure a more accurate interpretation of data and trend analysis, all Nutrition programme data from previous months is updated to capture results submitted by partners after the cut-off date for the situation report

^ No communicable diseases were reported in December 2020. COVID-19 data can be accessed via the following link: <https://rebrand.ly/who-covid-somalia-dashboards>

## Annex B

### Funding Status\*

Funding Requirements (as defined in the 2020 Humanitarian Appeal)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements*	Funds available**		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	US\$	%
Health	21,346,576	7,090,072	2,395,724	11,860,780	56%
Nutrition	33,653,015	23,780,162	4,841,503	5,031,350	15%
Education	18,727,500	1,681,218	1,328,353	15,717,929	84%
WASH	35,340,722	10,004,082	4,916,122	20,420,518	58%
Child Protection	14,256,379	4,801,554	533,155	8,921,670	63%
Cash-based response	2,860,790	0	342,683	2,518,107	88%
Cluster/Sector Coordination	2,999,588	0	683,492	2,316,096	77%
<b>Total</b>	<b>129,184,570</b>	<b>47,357,088</b>	<b>15,041,032</b>	<b>66,786,450</b>	<b>52%</b>

\*\*Funds available' includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year.

UNICEF humanitarian programmes also benefit from resilience funding generously contributed by multiple different donors. Such resources help UNICEF contribute towards both humanitarian efforts and interventions at the nexus between humanitarian and development action for children.