



Somalia

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 2





Reporting Period: 1 February to 28 February 2021

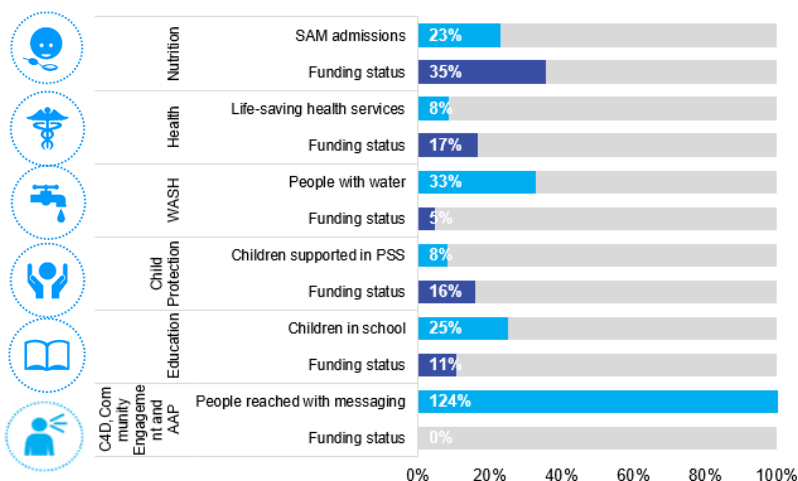
Highlights

- With another spike of COVID-19 cases in Somalia, UNICEF humanitarian implementing partners maintained essential health service delivery and provided 36,104 first outpatient consultations, including life-saving services for 9,199 internally displaced people (IDP) and hard-to-reach / marginalised people.
- UNICEF has responded to areas affected by water shortages with water trucking, which began in Belet Weyne in Hiraaan region, reaching 18,000 people in February.
- In February 2021, UNICEF and partners reached 12,311 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM).
- In February, the child protection programme reached 5,226 people with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, representing a 4 per cent increase in the number of children reached compared to the previous month.
- The total number of children enrolled in supported schools increased by 3 per cent in February reaching a total of 20,459 learners. Of these, 265 were children with disabilities.

Situation in Numbers

-  **3,400,000** children in need of humanitarian assistance (Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2020)
-  **5,900,000** people in need (Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2020)
-  **1,958,550** Internally displaced children (IDPs) or refugees (OCHA 2021)

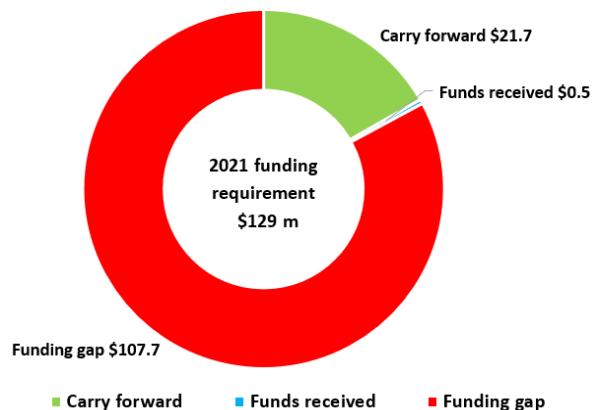
UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2021

US\$ 129 million

Funding Status in US\$ millions (HAC 2021 Somalia)



Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2021, UNICEF is appealing for **US\$ 129.8** million to sustain provision of life-saving services including critical nutrition, health, WASH, child protection and education in emergency interventions. Continued predictable, flexible and timely donor support is critical to sustaining vital response activities and preventing further deterioration of the situation in Somalia. Funds and supplies which were carried over from 2020 have supported the results achieved so far in 2021. 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.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The impact of delayed and erratic rains in the *Deyr* season is becoming more apparent with water shortages being reported in many communities, with increases in water prices being observed. The ambivalent outlook for the *Gu* rainy season is likely to deepen humanitarian crisis in the coming months especially in regions such as Sool, Sanaag, parts of Galmudug, Bay, Bakool and Lower Juba, where the main water sources of shallow wells and Berkads have dried-up. The shortages of safe drinking water have led to an increase of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) /cholera cases in some areas of the country. According to the Ministry of Health and Human Services, a total of 88 new suspected cases of cholera were reported in the last week of February from Bay, Afgoye, Merka and Banadir regions with no deaths¹.

Through at least mid-2021 it is expected that the desert locust plague will continue to put at risk pasture and crops across the country. The desert locust plague continues with immature swarms forming in the north of the country in February². Control measures led by FAO are ongoing and smaller swarms are being observed compared to the same period in 2020.

February saw an uptake in the number of cases of COVID-19 within Somalia. As of the end of the month, there was a total of 7,257 positive cases with 343 deaths.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

In February 2021, UNICEF and partners reached 12,311 children (7,037 girls, 5,274 boys) with severe acute malnutrition (SAM), bringing the total number of SAM admissions to 28,841 (15,609 girls, 12,348 boys) between January and February 2021. No major fluctuations in monthly admissions have been observed since the beginning of the year, whilst total admissions are similar to admissions observed in the same period in previous years, underlining the sustained level of acute malnutrition in Somalia. The programme has maintained treatment outcomes consistent with Sphere standards, with 94 per cent of discharged children cured. The highest admissions were in Bay, Bakool, Lower Shabelle and Hiraaan, consistent with the regions of highest vulnerability due to impact of shocks. As well, UNICEF is continuing to reach children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in areas lacking targeted supplementary feeding services with MAM treatment services following the simplified protocol, reaching 1,116 children (579 girls, 537 boys) in February. Moving forward, the nutrition program will continue to sustain the integrated response, while monitoring the nutrition situation in the coming months and adjust the response to reach children most in need in line with global standards.

Health

With another spike of COVID-19 cases in Somalia, UNICEF humanitarian implementing partners (IPs) maintained essential health service delivery and provided 36,104 first outpatient (16,662 children) consultations, including life-saving services for 9,199 IDPs and hard-to-reach or marginalised people. Suspected COVID-19 cases reported by UNICEF supported health facilities and community health workers decreased by 14 and 69 per cent respectively. Recorded patients with ARI/ pneumonia and unclassified fever – used as a proxy for possible COVID-19 cases - increased by 7 and 12 percent compared to last month. UNICEF IPs also continued their efforts to ensure both patient and staff safety and conducted IPC-trainings for 394 health facility staff. To date 81 per cent of supported health facilities have established handwashing and 61 per cent triage stations outside. The remainder placed these amenities inside due to a lack of outside space and/or tents and UNICEF distributed 8 tents to aid that effort. To pre-empt an additional surge in communicable diseases, UNICEF IPs also continued their routine immunisation efforts and 3,593 children under-1 received Penta-1 and 4,167 children (2,284 girls, 1,883 boys) under-1 received measles vaccinations throughout February.

¹ Weekly Cholera Situation Report, Week 8, Ministry of Health and Human Services, Federal Government of Somalia

² Desert Locust situation update 3 March 2021

WASH

Drought conditions continue to be widely reported across Somalia. A January 2021 inter-agency Drought Risk Assessment in Puntland, Galmudug and Jubaland compiled by OCHA found a significant reduction in water wells that were productive. UNICEF has responded to these conditions with water trucking in Belet Weyne in Hiraan region where 18,000 people (10,906 children) were reached in February. Government authorities have called for urgent humanitarian assistance to prevent further deterioration of the situation. Due to inadequate funding, the WASH cluster partners are facing significant challenges to cover the humanitarian needs. In durable water solutions, two new water supply systems were completed in Sanaag and Maroodi Jeex regions in Somaliland, and nine other systems were upgraded with pipe extensions and maintenance in Hiraan, Awdal, Mudug and Sool regions. In addition to safe water, hygiene kits distribution and hygiene awareness campaigns through mass media, house-to-house visits and vehicles mounted with loudspeaker reached 58,000 people in South-Central Somalia.

Education

Due to the increased number of COVID-19 cases especially in Mogadishu, the Federal Ministry of Education closed all schools in Banadir Regional Administration for an initial period of two weeks from 3 to 17 March 2021. The total number of children enrolled in supported schools increased by 3 per cent in February reaching a total of 20,459 learners (9,250 girls, 11,209 boys). Of these, 265 were children with disabilities. While the percentage of children with disabilities in school is increasing, their overall participation in education is still low as the total population data is not available. The overall positive results in relation to enrolling marginalized children to school is the outcome of continuous efforts to raise awareness in the communities on the importance of education through social mobilization activities. In February, UNICEF supported crisis affected learners through the distribution of safe drinking water, as well as menstrual hygiene management kits for 300 adolescent girls, bringing the total number to 1,000 girls supported. There were 320 teachers (86 female, 234 male) who continued to be supported with monthly incentives to ensure their retention in the teaching profession, as well as the safeguard sustainable activities in the schools.

Child Protection

In February, the child protection programme reached 5,226 people (1,657 girls, 2,312 boys) with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, representing a 4 per cent increase in the number of children reached compared to the previous month. Services received included psychosocial first aid, play therapy in safe spaces, group counselling and peer to peer support. Child rights awareness-raising campaigns reached a total of 11,757 people (4,708 girls, 2,185 boys) representing a 28 per cent increase in people benefitting when compared to the last reporting period. Awareness activities covered risk education, prevention of family separation, gender-based violence (GBV), COVID-19 precautionary measures and child protection referral mechanisms. Child protection service points and safe houses provided legal, clinical, PSS, shelter and safety support to 536 GBV survivors. A total of 2,152 children (835 girls, 1,317 boys) were in need of family care and protection benefitted from family reunification and alternative care programmes. The programme received five children associated with armed groups and forces (CAAFAG) from the Ministry of Defence in Mogadishu and provided immediate shelter, food and psychosocial support.

Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement & Accountability

The National Risk Communication and Communitary Engagement (RCCE) strategy and its implementation plan has been updated for March 2021 to February 2022. The RCCE plan, strategy, budget and monitoring plan of UNICEF were updated accordingly. Current materials for electronic and print media have been redesigned and reproduced considering information fatigue, COVID-19 pandemic as well as introduction of the vaccine. All four ODKs and standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been updated incorporating latest developments in the field of RCCE. In order to scale up demand generation for the COVID-19 vaccine besides ongoing RCCE intervention, a campaign titled "imask up" is being launched from March 2021. Under the leadership of the Government of Somalia, UNICEF together with all RCCE pillar partners will broadcast radio and tv spots, animation, social media posts in addition to community level interventions like house to house visits, public announcements, engagement of opinion leaders and display of IEC materials.

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 2021 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 230 operational 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 February, UNICEF and UNFPA [marked the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation](#), [celebrated FGM survivors](#) and [called on the Government of Somalia to recommit to ending FGM](#) by passing a law that eliminates the practice. The communication team also highlighted the [importance of giving children the opportunity to go to school](#) through stories and [social media content](#), emphasized the [crucial role local governments play in providing essential services to children amid COVID-19](#), continued to share [messages on key COVID-19 prevention measures](#), and provided visibility to donors through the Country Office's [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) feeds.

Next SitRep: 20 April 2021

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

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

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Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall needs	UNICEF and IPs			Cluster/AoR Response		
		2021 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2021 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼
Nutrition*							
# of boys and girls 6-59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care	162,008	121,500 (62,546 G 58,954 B)	27,957 (15,609 G 12,348 B)	12,311 ▲	162,008 (82,624 G 79,384 B)	31,662 (17,352 G 14,310 B)	13,498 ▲
# of boys and girls 6-59 months with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) admitted to therapeutic care through the simplified protocol	800,878	25,000 (12,750 G 12,250 B)	4,644 (2,316 G 2,328 B)	1,116 ▲	560,615 (285,914 G 274,701 B)	62,480 (33,739 G 28,741 B)	24,562 ▲
# of primary caregivers of children 0-23 months who received counselling on infant and young child feeding	887,582	880,000 (850,000 W 30,000 M)	145,676 (145,676 W 0 M)	67,680 ▲	887,582	161,872	69,393 ▲
Health							
# of people provided with access to essential life-saving health services		849,484 (210,165 G 192,320 B 259,793 W 187,206 M)	71,782 (17,110 G 15,685 B 24,872 W 14,115 M)	36,042 ▲			
# of children under-1 year vaccinated against measles		64,156 (34,620 G 29,536 B)	8,279 (4,526 G 3,753 B)	4,167 ▲			
# of pregnant women receiving delivery services by skilled birth attendants		28,227 (28,227 W)	3,765	2,029 ▲			
% of children 0-59 months with diarrhoea receiving oral rehydration salts (ORS)		>90%	92%	8% ▼			
# of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control (IPC)^		2,096 (1,174 W 922 M)	499 (258 W 241 M)	394 ▲			
WASH							
# of people reached with emergency water services in targeted settlements and communities	1,600,000	850,000 (255,000 G 263,500 B 178,500 W 153,000 M)	280,171 (83,211 G 86,545 B 58,653 W 51,762 M)	18,000 ▲	1,000,000 (300,000 G 350,000 B 180,000 W 170,000 M)	302,639 (90,791 G 105,924 B 54,475 W 51,449 M)	25,068 ▲
# of people reached with sanitation services in vulnerable settlements and communities.	1,300,000	175,000 (52,500 G 54,250 B 36,750 W 31,500 M)	15,200 (4,514 G 4,695 B 3,182 W 2,809 M)	4,200 ▲	1,000,000 (300,000 G 350,000 B 180,000 W 170,000 M)	54,772 (16,431 G 19,171 B 9,858 W 9,312 M)	13,358 ▲
# of people reached with hygiene promotion activities and hygiene kits distribution in vulnerable settlements and communities	4,100,000	1,200,000 (360,000 G 372,000 B 252,000 W 216,000 M)	118,275 (35,128 G 36,535 B 24,761 W 21,851 M)	58,443 ▲	2,547,007 (764,102 G 891,453 B 458,461 W 432,991 M)	149,463 (44,839 G 52,312 B 26,904 W 25,408 M)	71,797 ▲
# of people reached with sustainable access to safe water in targeted settlements and communities.	4,200,000	320,000 (96,000 G 99,200 B 67,200 W 57,600 M)	130,399 (38,728 G 40,279 B 27,299 W 24,093 M)	52,662 ▲	1,547,007 (464,102 G 541,453 B 278,461 W 262,991 M)	147,009 (44,103 G 51,453 B 26,461 W 24,992 M)	57,837 ▲
# of people reached through institutional WASH Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) activities		220,000 (66,000 G 68,200 B 46,200 W 39,600 M)	7,722 (2,293 G 2,385 B 1,617 W 1,427 M)	7,722 ▲			
Child Protection							
# of children and caregivers accessing community based mental health and psychosocial support services	545,500	180,000 (79,200 G 79,200 B 14,400 W 7,200 M)	12,912 (4,120 G 5,469 B 1,757 W 1,566 M)	5,226 ▲	408,000 (122,400 G 142,800 B 73,440 W 69,360 M)	13,863 (4,765 G 5,469 B 2,042 W 1,587 M)	6,075 ▲
# of registered unaccompanied and separated children supported with reunification services, family-based care or appropriate alternatives	28,000	7,040 (2,605 G 4,435 B)	3,989 (1,556 G 2,433 B)	2,152 ▲	15,000 (4,500 G 5,250 B 2,700 W 2,550 M)	3,369 (1,531 G 2,108 B)	2,166 ▲

# of women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation prevention and response interventions		100,000 (16,760 G 14,285 B 40,550 W 28,405 M)	1,109 (397 G 62 B 610 W 40 M)	536 ▲			
# of girls and boys released from armed groups and forces reintegrated with their families/communities and provided with adequate care and services	10,000	1,760 (440 G 1,320 B)	612 (79 G 533 B)	5 ▲	3000 (900 G 1,050 B 540 W 510M)	677 (87 G 590 B)	5 ▲
# of individuals targeted with rights-based public outreach and awareness raising activities	1,089,500	200,000 (80,000 G 80,000 B 20,000 W 20,000 M)	22,500 (7,362 G 4,843 B 5,630 W 4,665 M)	11,757 ▲	744,000 (223,200 G 260,400 B 133,920 W 126,480 M)	25,293 (7,621 G 7,213 B 6,576 W 3,883 M)	14,310 ▲
Education							
# of children accessing formal and non-formal primary education	1,440,000	160,000 (80,000 G 80,000 B)	40,346 (18,141 G 22,205 B)	20,459 ▲	374,973 (168,738 G 206,235 B)	90,271 (42,286 G 47,985 B)	38,331 ▲
# of school children with access to safe drinking water and hygiene promotion services	1,440,000	120,000 (60,000 G 60,000 B)	40,346 (18,141 G 22,205 B)	20,459 ▲	374,973 (168,738 G 206,235 B)	53,508 (24,677 G 28,831 B)	29,389 ▲
# of teachers trained in basic pedagogy and psychosocial support	7,300	1,200 (480 W 720 M)	0 (0 W 0 M)	0 ▲	7,300 (1,825 W 5,475 M)	630 (171 W 459 M)	420 ▲
Communication for Development							
# people reached through messaging on individual, family and community level prevention practices and access to services		500,000 (100,000 G 75,000 B 200,000 W 125,000 M)	618,584 (0 G 0 B 407,144 W 211,440 M)	511,011 ▲			

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

^ COVID-19 data can be accessed via the following link: <https://rebrand.ly/who-covid-somalia-dashboard>

Annex B

Funding Status*

Funding Requirements (as defined in the 2021 Humanitarian Appeal)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available**		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	US\$	%
Health	23,710,868	500,000	3,444,875	19,765,993	83%
Nutrition	32,718,475	0	11,612,943	21,105,532	65%
Education	19,200,000	0	2,032,824	17,167,176	89%
WASH	33,000,001	0	1,529,247	31,470,754	95%
Child Protection	19,196,691	0	3,070,866	16,125,825	84%
C4D, Community Engagement and AAP	2,021,760	0	0	2,021,760	100%
Total	129,847,795	500,000	21,690,754	107,657,041	83%

* As defined in UNICEF Humanitarian Appeal for Children 2021 for a period of 12 months

**'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.