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Somalia

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 8



Reporting Period: 1 to 31 August 2020

Highlights

- There were 11,891 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admitted into a treatment programme August. There appears to be a slight reduction in SAM admissions compared to previous months, consistent with historical seasonal patterns.
- In August, UNICEF and implementing partners provided essential health services via health facilities and re-instated outreach services to 34,426 children under-5 and 22,056 women.
- UNICEF supported the provision of emergency water reaching 52,000 vulnerable people in Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba regions who were affected by the *Hagaa* floods. This included 34,000 people through water trucking and 18,000 people had access to safe water after chlorination of 50 water points in the affected areas.
- A total of 116,612 children were supported with alternative learning such as radio, television and online eLearning. This was aimed at ensuring continuity of learning in the COVID-19 context.
- In August, 220 student Social Workers facilitated rights based public outreach and awareness raising on risk education, prevention of family separation, COVID-19 precautionary measures, child recruitment, child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM) which reached 7,306 people.

Situation in Numbers



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

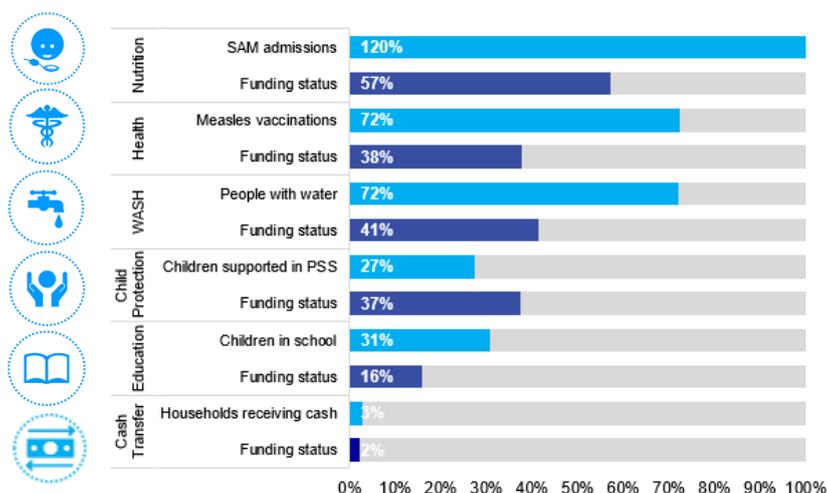


5,200,000
people in need
(Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2019)



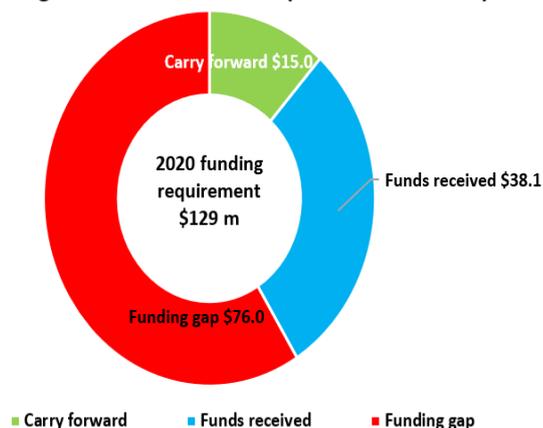
2,600,000
Internally displaced people (IDPs) or refugees
(Humanitarian Needs Overview December 2019)

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 is appealing for **US\$ 129.1** million to sustain provision of life-saving services including critical nutrition, health, WASH, child protection and education in emergency interventions, as well as cash-based assistance for women and children in Somalia. Continued predictable, flexible and timely donor support is critical to sustaining vital response activities and preventing further deterioration of the situation. The contributions made in 2020 will enable UNICEF and partners to ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance at scale as a result of droughts, floods and conflict.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The impact of the triple threat of floods, desert locusts and COVID-19 has been estimated to have put 5.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2020, with an estimated 3.5 million (1 million children) people projected to fall into crisis or emergency food insecurity¹. Whilst most of the people who were displaced in the flooding in July have since returned to their homes there were new areas flooded in August. The flood waters impacted the southern areas of Somalia with over 15,000 people displaced in Belet Weyne due to overbank spillage of water later in August². This flooding was as a result of late *Hagaa* rains being heavier than in previous years resulting in breakages in riverbanks and damages to houses and farmlands with crops. Since late June over 250,000 people have been affected by floods in Hirshabelle, South West and Jubaland states. Humanitarian partners (including UNICEF) have responded to the flooding with distributions of WASH and NFI supplies as well as food assistance. Compounding the impact of the floods, the desert locust plague, is showing signs of effecting the overall food security within the country³. In late August a measles and polio vaccination campaign were started to immunize close to 460,000 children under 5 years of age. The campaign aims to reduce the occurrence of measles outbreaks in Somalia.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

During the month of August, the emergency nutrition programme focused on the most fragile areas of Somalia with coverage of programmes critical to accelerate the reduction and prevention of excess morbidity and mortality related to severe acute malnutrition (SAM). As such, 159,993 children with SAM (45 per cent of whom are boys) have been admitted into the SAM treatment programme since January, 11,891 of which were admitted in August. Although the case load for 2020 has exceeded the target there is sufficient supplies in stock to cover the projected needs until March 2021. After accounting for reporting lags, there still appears to be a slight reduction in SAM admissions compared to previous months, consistent with historical seasonal patterns. Overall, the trend is consistent with, and numbers are lower than, in 2019. In September there will be the *Gu* assessment analysis which will be used to guide the needs for the humanitarian response plan (HRP) in 2021. The highest admissions are registered in Afgooye, Baidoa and Belet Weyne denoting the impact of the floods that have significantly affected riverine cropping areas of Middle Shabelle, Hiraan, Middle and Lower Juba. UNICEF has reached 600,000 pregnant and lactating women with appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling since January. In August, UNICEF supported the World Breastfeeding week through a variety of activities that promote, protect and support breastfeeding including 210 radio spots aired by five radio stations, radio talk shows, 105 TV spots aired three times a day and SMS on breastfeeding to about 20,000 mobile subscribers. Moving forward, the nutrition program will sustain the integrated response and adjust the response to reach children most in need in line with global standards.

Health

UNICEF and implementing partners provided essential health services via health facilities and re-instated outreach services to 34,426 children under-5, 22,056 women and 23,032 people from IDP and hard-to-reach populations. Recorded acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) / cholera cases decreased by 45 percent in August compared to July (281 vs 507 cases) with only Banadir districts and Baidoa (Bay) reporting patients. UNICEF implementing partners also registered a 4 per cent drop in acute diarrhoea cases and 98.9 per cent of children under-5 affected were appropriately treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS). In light of the recent flooding in Belet Weyne, Afgooye and Wanla Weyn in August, UNICEF is continuing to monitor the situation closely and has repositioned 58 AWD kits to partners in affected areas. Following a 380 per cent surge of measles cases in Kismayo in July (197 cases) compared to June (41 cases), UNICEF has accelerated vaccination efforts and, whilst a targeted supplementary immunisation activity response in Kismayo is planned in September, 54.5 per cent of children under-1 in humanitarian supported regions have so far been vaccinated against measles. Pneumonia cases recorded by implementing partners decreased by a 15 per cent in August

¹ Humanitarian Bulletin Somalia, OCHA, 1-30 June 2020

² <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-hagaa-season-floods-update-3-23-august-2020-ens>

³ Desert Locust Emergency in Somalia, FAO, 15 July 2020

with 98.4 per cent of affected children under-5 appropriately treated with antibiotics. To facilitate service provision, UNICEF distributed 57 inter-agency emergency health kits and 17 midwifery kits to 15 partners in 6 priority regions.

WASH

In August, UNICEF continued supply of emergency water reaching 52,000 vulnerable people in Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba regions who were affected by the *Hagaa* floods which included 34,000 people through water trucking and 18,000 people had access to safe water after chlorination of 50 water points in the affected areas. UNICEF continued to support sustainable water sources and reached 18,459 people through the rehabilitation of boreholes, water supply systems and construction of water storage in health facilities in Bari, Mudug, Gedo and Banadir regions. On emergency sanitation, 228 new emergency latrines were constructed and additional 54 de-sludged improving access for over 8,000 internally displaced people (IDP) in Baidoa, Wadajir and Allale in Bay and Mudug regions. An additional 48,688 people received hygiene kits and hygiene messaging to improve hygienic behaviour.

Education

A total of 116,612 (48,218 girls) children have been supported with alternative learning such as radio, television and online eLearning. This was aimed at ensuring continuity of learning in the COVID-19 context after the abrupt mandatory closure of schools and all institutions of learning in March 2020. During August, UNICEF financially and technically supported the Puntland Ministry of Education in the development of digitalized lessons in Math, Science, History, Geography, Somali, English, Arabic and Islamic religious education for grade 8. The resources were reviewed, certified and officially uploaded in the learning passport portal. This was achieved through engagement of 170 teachers and Ministry of Education officials to ensure the quality standards and assurance develop review and record. With the re-opening of school in August particularly in the southern areas and Somaliland, the ongoing COVID-19 early recovery efforts continue to be put in place with UNICEF supporting the Ministry of Education in the development of the school re-opening guidelines. More focus is also being put in place on messaging, enhancing hygiene promotion and other COVID-19 protocols to ensure school follow the set guidelines to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. In Somaliland 8 primary schools remain closed due to damages caused by heavy rains with storms affected Salahley districts.

Child Protection

Community based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services were delivered to 2361 people through child friendly spaces, club activities and parents support sessions. Services to accelerate children's recovery from the experience of war and pave the way to community reintegration supported 605 children associated with armed forces or armed groups (CAAFAG) with safe shelter in interim centres and vocational training. There were 220 student Social Workers who facilitated rights based public outreach and awareness raising on risk education, prevention of family separation, COVID-19 precautionary measures, child recruitment, child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM) which reached 7,306 people. Family tracing and reunification services and family based care were delivered to 1,791 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) with 42% being reunified with their families in Puntland. There were 40% higher cases of gender based violence (GBV) this month when compared to the same period last year, portraying increased exposure of women and girls during COVID-19. Violence against children, both inside and outside of the home, has increased as families are in a confined space, with limited resources and heightened stress. Negative coping mechanisms including child labour and child marriage cases are already increasing as well as boys are at higher risk of recruitment.

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

During August, the C4D section supported routine immunization programmes by reaching 111 health facilities, conducting sensitization meetings for 11,357 caregivers, 227 religious' leaders, announcements in 94 mosques, distributing 289 IEC materials, and broadcasting 100 radio spots. The SOMNET, the District Polio Officers and District Field Assistant managed to solve 130 (60.2 per cent) refusals out of 216 identified. Through the Joint Programme on Local Governance (JPLG) UNICEF carried out awareness raising interventions to promote community health-seeking behaviours and reached 97,500 people (65 per cent female). In collaboration with Child Protection the C4D teams conducted with implementing partner 59 community awareness sessions on COVID-19, FGM, GBV and child labour and reached 2,946 girls and women.

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 August, the communication team marked the World Breastfeeding Week in Somalia and provided [advice](#), [highlighted successful work on the ground](#) and amplified [messaging from the Ministry of Health](#). We celebrated World Humanitarian Day and drew attention to #RealLifeHeroes – including [UNICEF's staff](#) on the ground as well as all [the doctors, nurses, midwives and volunteers providing essential health services](#) to vulnerable Somali women and children. With the Ministry of Health, UNICEF [launched the first national nutrition survey since 2009](#). The [report](#) launch garnered strong attention in both [international](#) and [national media](#) outlets across Somalia and it was broadly [highlighted also in social media by the ministry, journalists and UNICEF](#). We highlighted the [first measles and polio routine immunization campaign in Banadir region amid COVID-19](#) and highlighted the [work of the immunization teams](#).

Next SitRep: 20 October 2020

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		
		2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼
Nutrition*							
# 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)	10,740 (5,830 G 4,910 B)	635 ▲	623,000 (317,730 G 305,270 B)	264,427 (142,437 G 121,990 B)	31,684 ▲
# 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)	159,993 (87,081 G 72,912 B)	11,891 ▲	178,437 (91,003 G 87,434 B)	157,306 (85,814 G 71,492 B)	12,815 ▲
# of pregnant and lactating women receiving preventative services through supplementary nutrition	562,000	199,500	159,954	18,909 ▲	202,000	192,539	33,541 ▲
# of primary caregivers of children 0-23 months who received counselling on infant and young child feeding	N/A	650,000*	602,388	61,987 ▲	421,696	645,091	68,711 ▲
Health							
# of children vaccinated against measles		99,743 (50,869 G 48,874 B)	72,045 (39,084 G 32,961 B)	6,714 ▲			
# of emergency-affected pregnant woman receiving delivery services by skilled birth attendants		48,420	22,085	2,265 ▲			
# 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)	696,501 (184,313 G 1567,093 B 203,169 W 141,926 M)	73,340 ▲			
% of communicable diseases outbreaks investigated and responded to in the first 72 hours		90%	N/A	1^			
WASH							
# 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)	576,623 (149,958 G 147,949 B 142,016 W 136,700 M)	52,000 ▲	2,229,199 (1,049,953 W 1,179,246 M)	637,863 (191,359 G 223,251 B 114,816 W 108,437 M)	67,823 ▲
# 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)	1,115,635 (322,185 G 331,644 B 242,718 W 219,088 M)	48,688 ▲	2,359,564 (1,111,355 W 1,248,209 M)	1,235,550 (370,665 G 432,442 B 222,399 W 210,044 M)	63,316 ▲
# 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)	142,734 (41,439 G 42,737 B 30,837 W 27,721 M)	21,334 ▲	980,221 (461,684 W 518,537 M)	184,414 (55,323 G 64,546 B 33,195 W 31,350 M)	22,156 ▲
# 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)	339,682 (95,879 G 97,833 B 76,121 W 69,849 M)	18,459 ▲	1,249,102 (588,327 W 660,775 M)	468,578 (140,573 G 164,003 B 84,345 W 79,657 M)	46,530 ▲
Child Protection							
# 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 5000 M)	35,657 (11,909 G 15,057 B 5,323 W 3,368 M)	2,361 ▲	310,419 (90,022 G 108,647 B 58,980 W 52,271 M)	64,919 (25,759 G 27,236 B 7,353 W 4,571 M)	6,768 ▲
# of girls and boys formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups provided with reintegration support	4,000	2,000 (500 G 1500 B)	2,131 (447 G 1,684 B)	605 ▲	3,725 (1080 G 1304 B 708 W 633 M)	3,636 (871 G 2,765 B)	641 ▲
# 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)	72,200 (16,981 G 18,042 B 22,112 W 15,065 M)	7,306 ▲	566,205 (164,199 G 198,172 B 107,579 W 96,255 M)	171,068 (38,608 G 38,033 B 54,438 W 39,989 M)	20,661 ▲

# 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)	9,432 (3,691 G 5,741 B)	1,791 ▲	18,625 (8440 G 10,186 B)	13,725 (6,220 G 7,505 B)	2,258 ▲
# 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)	4,563 (1,321 G 173 B 3,006 W 63 M)	267 ▲			
Education							
# children and youth accessing quality formal or non-formal primary education	1,300,000	130,000 (65,000 G 65,000 B)	40,145 (18,300 G 21,845 B)	0	307,283 (150,569 G 156,714 B)	216,249 (103,706 G 112,543 B)	96,473
# 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	1,103	529
# of school children benefitting from emergency teaching and learning materials	1,300,000	130,000 (65,000 G 65,000 B)	4,800 (1920 G 2880 B)	0	307,283 (150,569 G 156,714 B)	133,327 (63,820 G 69,507 B)	46,902
# 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)	5,588 (2,941 W 2,647 M)	2,545
Cash Transfers							
# 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

^ One PV2 case was reported from Daynile district, Banadir region in August 202. 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 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	14,546,991	4,841,503	14,264,521	42%
Education	18,727,500	1,681,218	1,328,353	15,717,929	84%
WASH	35,340,722	10,004,071	4,916,122	20,420,530	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%
Total	129,184,570	38,123,906	15,041,032	76,019,632	59%

**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.