



Students at Matsenjeni Primary School, April, 2016

SWAZILAND

Humanitarian Situation Report



SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Date: 31 May 2016

(The numbers below are estimates and represent people to be affected by end of March 2016)

300,320 people affected by drought

189,000 children affected by drought

165,000 children affected by drought in the two most affected regions of Lubombo and Shiselweni

200,897 people food insecure

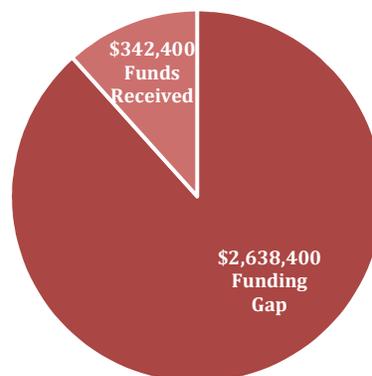
90,404 children food insecure

8,460 children 6-59 months affected by severe and moderate acute malnutrition

UNICEF Swaziland Appeal 2016

US\$ 2,980,800

89% Funding Gap



■ Funding Gap ■ Funds Received

Highlights

The impact of the El Niño drought is being exacerbated by the arrival of the dry season, leaving communities without access to water and struggling to afford adequate food. UNICEF is working closely with the National Disaster Management Authority (NMDA) to implement a targeted and appropriate response.

- *UNICEF and partners are reaching 2,500 children in schools and 15,000 people accessing health care facilities with clean water.*
- *The UNICEF Child Protection and HIV response remains unfunded. Consequently, activities prioritizing protection of children from violence, abuse and exploitation and the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS, both of which are long standing issues in Swaziland, remain to be implemented.*
- *Funding for the response is a significant limiting factor, alongside the capacity of implementing partners to expand to meet the needs of the most affected. Without sufficient funding, UNICEF and partners supporting the drought response remain without the financial and human capacity to support the Government's national drought response.*

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The El Niño-induced drought has seriously affected food and nutrition security and water availability across Swaziland. A National Emergency was declared by the Government of Swaziland on 18 February 2016. The next main harvest season is not expected until April 2017, meaning food and nutrition indicators can only be expected to deteriorate over the coming months. Water scarcity is a major consequence of the drought, as boreholes and rivers run dry and rainwater is not available. Whilst the water situation was already critical, the country is now in the dry season, lasting from April to October, meaning the situation is unlikely to improve without intervention.

Updates on the impacts of the drought are expected in July, as a Vulnerability Assessment (VAC) has just been concluded. The assessment was conducted at the household level throughout Swaziland and covered several sectors including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), food and livelihood security including agriculture, with special attention paid to coping strategies currently being used.

| Estimated Affected Population | | | |
|---|--|-------------------|---------------------|
| (Numbers below are estimates based on percentage of affected population) | | | |
| (The numbers represent people to be affected by drought by end of May 2016 ¹) | | | |
| | Total | Male (49%) | Female (51%) |
| Total Affected Population | 300,320 | 147,157 | 153,163 |
| Children Affected (Under 18) | 189,000 | 92,610 | 96,390 |
| Children Under Five | 40,843 | 20,013 | 20,830 |
| Pregnant Women | 8,750 | | |
| Children Affected in Lubombo & Shiselweni (The 2 most affected regions) | 165,000 | 80,850 | 84,150 |
| People Food Insecure | 200,897 (18% of country's population) | 98,440 | 102,457 |
| Children Food Insecure | 90,404 | 44,298 | 46,106 |

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is responsible for coordinating the emergency on behalf of the Government of Swaziland. The NDMA hosts regular fortnightly inter sector meetings to facilitate coordination between the respective Government Ministries/Departments, UN agencies and NGOs. All drought actors are requested to attend inter sector coordination, as well as relevant sector meetings. UNICEF is co-lead of the WASH Sector and is UN focal agency for Education. UNICEF, in accordance with the Core Commitments for Children in Emergencies (CCCs), is also taking an active participatory role in the Nutrition and Protection Sectors. A National Emergency Response Mitigation and Adaptation Plan (NERMAP) was issued in January 2016, which provides the overview of immediate emergency activities and incorporates recovery and resiliency activities. The plan covers January 2016 to March 2022. Sectors are in the process of finalizing their individual implementation plans, which are based on activities presented in the NERMAP and are being used to guide the response.

Humanitarian Strategy

The UNICEF response strategy aims to address humanitarian needs outlined by the NERMAP, and to ensure that the CCCs are upheld. UNICEF and partners will focus on providing optimal access to life saving WASH, health and nutrition services for women and children, as well as critical education and children protection services in the affected areas.

UNICEF's WASH response focuses on providing continued access to safe water and sanitation/hygiene facilities and raising awareness on sanitation and hygiene issues in affected communities and schools. Malnutrition surveillance is being enhanced and therapeutic feeding products are being distributed to Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) sites for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) cases. UNICEF aims to ensure the continued access to health care services for women and children through the distribution of essential drugs and supplies to health clinics across the affected region and by providing support for people living with HIV. UNICEF will work to prevent gender-based violence and abuse and exploitation of all vulnerable groups, and will work to further facilitate the protection, care and wellbeing of women and children among the affected population.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

According to Swaziland Meteorological Service the drought situation is projected to worsen as the country enters the dry winter months, with no expected rainfall. This will significantly affect schools, clinics and communities that normally rely on rain water harvesting. UNICEF has received funding to enable the provision of drinking water and hygiene promotion in some of the most affected areas, however, there is still a funding gap for sanitation response, especially at schools where sanitary conditions are very poor. A gap identified with gathering WASH field data on the needs and verification of affected water infra structure is being addressed using RapidPro (an SMS data collection tool) followed by field verification at selected locations. UNICEF, as the sector co-lead for WASH, facilitated the development of the WASH sector Drought Action Plan, which focuses on three main outcomes; i) Coordinated WASH Sector response; ii) Improved awareness and knowledge on WASH in drought affected communities; and, iii) Increased access to potable water.

¹ NERMAP January 2016 to March 2022

Education

The Education response is integrated with the WASH response, and is focusing on WASH interventions in schools to ensure schools continue to operate throughout the drought period.

Health & Nutrition

To address capacity gaps identified in the Comprehensive Health and Nutrition Assessment conducted in April, UNICEF is working with World Vision to train Rural Health Motivators (RHMs) to conduct regular community nutrition surveillance activities and nutrition education and counselling. A partnership has been established with the Swaziland National Nutrition Council (SNNC) for strengthening health workers capacity for improved management of SAM and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). UNICEF is supporting this partnership through the procurement of nutrition anthropometric equipment and nutritional supplies. To strengthen the SNNC technical capacity, UNICEF has recruited a Nutrition expert dedicated to working with the national programme in the implementation and monitoring of nutrition response activities.

Child Protection

Child Protection falls under the Social Protection Sector lead by the Department of Social Welfare (DSW) of the Deputy Prime Minister's Office of the Government of Swaziland. UNICEF and UNFPA (as the UN focal point for Social Protection), have continued to provide technical support to the sector response. UNICEF has supported the training of 45 social workers on how the drought may impact on children's rights. UNICEF, in collaboration with UNFPA, is supporting child protection assessments that will take place in June (which will be conducted by World Vision and DSW), and will cover the impact the drought is having on children.

Communications for Development (C4D)

The recruitment of a C4D in emergency consultant has been finalized. UNICEF supported the C4D training of RHMs which was facilitated by World Vision, SNNC and the RHM programme. The need to develop additional training aides and materials for further training sessions was identified, which will be supported by UNICEF.

Supply and Logistics

UNICEF supplies and logistics are functioning well. Supplies that are not produced locally (e.g. Plumpy'Nut) are being sourced internationally. Timelines for delivery are currently adequate. UNICEF is providing support for nutritional surveillance which requires anthropometric equipment not available in country. In order to expedite delivery, so as not to delay activities, arrangements have been made with neighbouring UNICEF country offices for the procurement of supplies they have on hand until Swaziland orders are filled.

Funding

| Funding Requirements February to December 2016 | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Appeal Sector | Requirements US\$ | Funds received (US\$) | Funding gap | |
| | | | \$ | % |
| Nutrition | \$324,000 | 0 | \$324,000 | 100% |
| Health | \$324,000 | 0 | \$324,000 | 100% |
| WASH | \$1,944,000 | \$342,400 | 1,601,600 | 82% |
| Child Protection | \$151,200 | 0 | \$151,200 | 100% |
| Education | \$21,600 | 0 | \$21,600 | 100% |
| HIV and AIDS | \$216,000 | 0 | \$216,000 | 100% |
| Total | 2,980,800 | 342,400 | 2,638,400 | 89% |

Next SitRep: 30 June 2016

UNICEF Swaziland: <http://www.unicef.org/swaziland/>

UNICEF Swaziland: <https://www.facebook.com/Unicef-Swaziland>

UNICEF Swaziland: https://twitter.com/Unicef_Swazi

Who to contact for further information:

Rachel Odede
Representative,
Swaziland
Tel: +268 7602 5343
Fax: +268 2404-5202
Email: rodede@unicef.org

Tanya Radosavljevic
Deputy Representative
Swaziland
Tel: +268 7602 5147
Fax: +268 2404-5202
Email: tradosavljevic@unicef.org

Boniswa Dladla
WASH Officer,
Swaziland
Tel: +268 7611 8530
Fax: +268 2404-5202
Email: bdladla@unicef.org