1.9 million
Internally displaced persons (IDPs) (OCHA South Sudan Humanitarian Bulletin, 23 March 2018)

2.4 million
South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries (OCHA South Sudan Humanitarian Bulletin, 23 March 2018)

5.1 million
South Sudanese who are food insecure (OCHA South Sudan Humanitarian Bulletin, 23 March 2018)

Highlights

- UNICEF, in coordination with partners, responded to a suspected Meningitis outbreak (173 suspected cases; 31 deaths reported) in Eastern Equatoria, first reported 15 February. UNICEF supported with case management through the provision of essential drugs/supplies, establishing a treatment center, and community engagement and social mobilization through UNICEF’s partner (South Sudan Red Cross) whose trained volunteers conducted house-to-house sensitizations on meningitis and community surveillance.

- Food insecurity and the nutrition situation remains dire, with further deterioration projected in May/July if appropriate, timely and integrated interventions are not taken. UNICEF has actioned a 180-day response plan but funding is critical for scale up efforts, especially in WASH and Health.

- Ten Integrated Rapid Response Missions (IRRMs) with WFP have been conducted in most affected counties including Panyijaar, Baggari, Nassir, Raja, and Rubkona, reaching 131,819 people, including 28,317 children under the age of five. The UNICEF and WFP IRRM partnership has expanded to include FAO, providing beneficiaries with additional life-saving services.

Funding Status

- Carry-over from 2017: $64,843,099
- Funding Gap: $93,501,498
- 2018 Funding Requirement: USD 183.3M
- Funds Received: $24,965,273
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Despite February’s declaration of the end of South Sudan’s longest and largest cholera outbreak, there is high risk of a new outbreak in South Sudan with the oncoming rainy season, coupled with poor sanitation condition, poor water and food handling practices. Children and women are the most vulnerable to an outbreak. The deteriorating food insecurity and nutrition situation could decrease the immunity of malnourished children, thereby increasing the consequences of a cholera outbreak. Other disease outbreaks (e.g. measles, and malaria) could also worsen the morbidity and mortality of children. The outbreak of Rift Valley fever (RVF) continues to evolve in Eastern Lakes State, South Sudan, with another county affected. As of 9 March 2018, a total of 40 cases and four deaths have been reported from Yirol East (37 cases, 4 deaths) and Yirol West (3 cases, no deaths) counties. Of these, a total of six confirmed, three probable and 12 suspect RVF cases (with pending laboratory results) have been reported. Nineteen suspected cases were considered as non-cases following negative laboratory results for RVF. The majority of suspected cases have been women (57.1 per cent), and individuals aged 20-39 years make up the majority (72.2 per cent) of cases.

A suspected meningitis outbreak in Eastern Equatoria, first reported on 15 February, is on the decline with only two suspected cases reported in week 12 (19-25 March). A total of 173 cases with 31 deaths (CFR= 17.92 per cent) have been reported since the index case.

The February 2018 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projected 6.3 million (57 per cent) and 7.1 million (63 per cent) of the population are facing crisis and emergency (IPC Phases 4 and 3 respectively) acute food insecurity in the absence of humanitarian assistance in February-April and May-July 2018, respectively. 55,150 people are projected to face catastrophic nutrition conditions in February-April and May-July 2018, respectively.

Humanitarian Strategy

In 2018, in line with UNICEF’s Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) and the inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), UNICEF will strengthen and expand its programmes through four modalities that will increase the capacity and reach of interventions: (1) static operations in stable areas; (2) outreach programmes; (3) mobile campaigns; and (4) IRRM missions. These four modalities will facilitate sustained service delivery in both secure and highly inaccessible
locations. UNICEF will continue to invest in strengthening national partner capacities and improving accountability to affected populations by building on existing community-based networks. This approach includes 180 Days Scale Up Plans (01 March to 31 August 2018), targeting 11 priority counties in light of the expected significant deterioration of the food security and nutrition situation during the lean season.

UNICEF aims to conduct five IRRM missions per month as the situation permits. So far in 2018, ten IRRM missions with WFP have been conducted. These were deployed to most affected counties, including Panyijiar, Baggari, Nassir, Raja, and Rubkona, reaching 131,819 people, including 28,317 children under the age of five. The UNICEF and WFP IRRM partnership has expanded to include FAO enabling beneficiaries to receive additional critical services, including livelihood kits containing fishing nets and agricultural inputs. UNICEF is advocating at national and local levels to bring about increased and sustained humanitarian access. UNICEF is also facilitating coherent coordination through UNICEF leadership of the WASH, Education and Nutrition clusters, as well as Child Protection Sub-Cluster.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Cholera Prevention: Feeding into the national-level, interagency South Sudan Cholera Prevention and response Plan, and to better prepare for future outbreaks during the forthcoming rainy season, UNICEF conducted a five-day training among 50 staff from WASH, Health, and C4D field office sections, as well as implementing partners. Participants were trained on cholera rapid response (outbreak investigation, case management, surveillance, WASH and infection prevention and control, and community mobilization) in collaboration with Ministry of Health (MoH), WHO and UNICEF’s East and Southern Africa Regional Office. The same 50 staff will now conduct Rapid Response Training (RRT) in April for rapid response team members in all 14 counties identified as cholera hotspots. The objectives of the training are to orient the team in the standard RRT package (outbreak investigation, case management, surveillance, WASH and infection prevention and control, community mobilization) and to adopt a standard mechanism for response.

Health: The first round of 2018 Polio NIDs began on 6 March, targeting 1,675,977 children aged of 0-59 months (50 per cent of children under five in South Sudan) in Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, and Central and Eastern Equatoria states. Preliminary results are not yet available. In response to the measles outbreaks in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Central Equatoria, Lakes and Unity states, UNICEF supported implementing partners with cold chain, logistic and social mobilization for reactive immunization that reached 448,046 children aged six months to 15 years. To strengthen the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) system, 20 health workers (EPI supervisors, vaccinators and cold chain technicians) in Fashoda County, as well as 25 health partners at the national level, were trained on effective vaccine and cold chain management practices for improved immunization service delivery.

The suspected meningitis outbreak in Eastern Equatoria, first reported on 15 February, is declining with only two suspected cases reported in week 12 (19-25 March). A total of 173 cases with 31 deaths (CFR= 17.92 per cent) have been reported since the index case. Nine of 13 samples analyzed at the national laboratory were positive for Streptococcus Pneumoniae which is an uncommon cause of outbreak. Further samples sent to France for definitive laboratory testing tested negative, however one sample tested positive for S. pneumoniae. An important determinant of the high fatality rate is non-functionality of health facilities in the area due to insecurity.

UNICEF’s response to a break out of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) began in January 2018 when the outbreak was reported and focused on community mobilization and surveillance, as well as supported case management in partnership with NGOs. In coordination with MOH, UNICEF developed pictorial, user-friendly communication material on RVF risk factors and prevention messages to guide community discussions, one to one communication. To date, 62,044 individuals were reached during house-to-house visits and an additional 18,584 people were reached through 956 community meetings with RVF prevention messages. Eighty-three community mobilizers have assisted with active case searching and reporting. These efforts have been reinforced through regular RVF education on community and FM radios in English and Dinka languages. UNICEF also supported MOH to enable its hotline for case reporting and RVF information provision to the public. Two-hundred long-lasting insecticide treated mosquito nets (LLITNs) were also distributed to all households in the RVF hotspot, Thonabutkok village.
UNICEF and its partners reached 110,448 (59,641 women) individuals with curative consultations, including 54,432 children under five years, through health facilities, community outreach and IRRM missions. This is an increase of 40 per cent from the previous reporting period and brings the total number of children under five years reached in 2018 to 124,674. Malaria was the main cause of morbidity among children seen (malaria 32 per cent, ARI 20 per cent and diarrhea 15 per cent). A total of 39,015 LLITNs have been distributed since January 2018. Meanwhile, 5,423 pregnant women received antenatal care services and 741 births were assisted by skilled birth attendants through UNICEF support. 2,709 pregnant women were tested for HIV, 26 of them tested positive and 15 enrolled in anti-retroviral therapy.

**Nutrition:** Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) sites managed by UNICEF partners in Raga County were suspended due to access constraints following insecurity. Worsening malnutrition in greater Kapoeta has been reported, along with a gradual increase in severe acute malnutrition (SAM) child admission in OTPs from January through February. The admission of SAM children in all three counties in Kapoeta doubled from 361 to 682 in January and February, respectively. Three successive seasons of insufficient rainfall have also affected the livelihoods of poor households in the area.

Seven IRRM missions were completed during the reporting period, four in Nassir County, two in Raja County and one in Rubkona (Jazeera). Nine thousand four hundred fifty-eight children aged six to 59 months were screened for acute malnutrition. Of these, 95 and 443 children were identified with SAM and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), respectively, and were treated or referred for treatment. Three thousand ninety-six pregnant and lactating women were screened for acute malnutrition of whom 531 women had mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) less than 23.0 cm (considered at severe and moderate risk of growth retardation of the foetus). A total of 8,959 children aged 6-59 months were given vitamin A supplementation and 7,244 received deworming treatment. 3,829 pregnant and lactating women were also reached with key messages on optimal infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices.

During the reporting period, a total of 249,296 children 6-59 months were screened in all states with 6,364 and 23,313 children identified as SAM and MAM, respectively. UNICEF and partners have admitted 30,723 SAM children into OTP/stabilization centres from January to February 2018. Training of trainers on MIYCN for 59 nutrition and health workers from the MoH and partners were conducted in Warrap, Jonglei and Central Equatoria states. In line with emergency preparedness, UNICEF has prepositioned 133,168 Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) cartons into UNICEF and partner state warehouses from January to date.

**Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH):** UNICEF continued to provide water and sanitation services in affected host communities, Protection of Civilian sites (POCs) and IDP sites, reaching an additional 58,037 people in Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, Gogrial, Warrap, Western, Central and Eastern Equatoria and Northern and Western Bahr el Ghazal states with access to improved safe water supply. An additional 28,962 people in Jonglei, Unity, Eastern Equatoria, Northern and Western Bahr el Ghazal and Lakes states were also provided with access to improved sanitation. Over 32,430 people in Jonglei, Lakes, Eastern and Western Equatoria, Upper Nile and Unity states received hygiene promotion education and emergency WASH non-food items (NFIs) including soap, household water purification products, buckets, jerry cans and hygiene kits.

School WASH needs assessments were completed in 150 primary schools in Northern and Western Bahr El Ghazal states. The schools are earmarked to benefit from an EU funded UNICEF and WFP multi-sectoral project bringing together WASH, education, child protection and school feeding programs. Assessment of WASH facilities in 150 schools in Northern and Western Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap and Eastern Equatoria were conducted and revealed that most schools do not have kitchens, stores, water points, pit latrines or hand washing facilities. UNICEF and WFP agreed on the list of schools that require food stores, kitchens and wash facilities to qualify them for school meals.

UNICEF, with its partners International Aid Services (IAS) and Mentor Initiative, have successfully completed three separate full-day workshops introducing the Accelerated Sanitation and Water for All (ASWA) II project to community leaders and payam administrators in Aweil East, Aweil South and Aweil North counties. The project seeks to provide 450,000 people with sustained access to safe water supplies and sanitation services, as well awareness and practice of improved hygiene behaviours. Clear explanation of the project was provided including objectives, planned activities, and target population. A transparent beneficiary community selection process was conducted jointly with payam
administrators and community leaders in close collaboration with the department of water resources using tools shared by the country office team.

**Education:** Child enrolment in school, as well as the availability of temporary learning spaces, continued to increase since February 2018. The percentage of children and adolescents aged three to 18 years provided with access to education in emergencies has risen from 39 to 49 percent of the 500,000 target. Key interventions focused on mass distribution of assorted education supplies including textbooks to support teaching and learning in schools and temporary learning spaces. More than 240,000 children (38 percent girls) were reached with teaching and learning materials.

UNICEF, in collaboration with the State Ministry of Education and State Ministry of Gender, celebrated International Women’s Day on 8 March in Pibor, Yambio and Torit. The event was used to sensitize communities and promote girls’ education.

In partnership with the Association of Christian Resource Organizations Serving Sudan (ACROSS), the State Ministry of Education, with support from UNICEF, completed a five-day training of 20 (three women) Early Childhood Development (ECD) facilitators in Lakes State. The training has enhanced the capacity of facilitators to effectively manage ECD classes.

**Child Protection:** During the reporting period, UNICEF and implementing partners reached 14,697 children (6,252 girls) through psychosocial support (PSS) activities in child-friendly spaces, schools and other community-based interventions in all ten states. 540 children (275 girls) were reached with life-saving mine risk education (MRE) messages. Through case management processes, 51 UASC (17 girls) have been referred for tracing services while 23 (nine girls) have received material assistance.

4,822 extremely vulnerable children (2,068 girls) also received lifesaving child protection messaging, including on family separation, recruitment into armed groups and grave child rights violations. The Child Protection in Emergencies program is planning for a second release in Bakwiri, Yambio targeting 197 children (188 girls). Upcoming releases will target children from surrounding areas that are relatively close to the release venue. UNICEF and partners reached 9,107 individuals (4,841 women, 2,472 girls, 627 boys, and 1,167 men) through gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response activities. Four safety audits assessing safety and security concerns of women and girls were conducted in Panyijar, Southern Unity and reinforced programming integration while also raising awareness of the responsibility all sectors have in preventing and mitigating GBV.

**Communication for Development (C4D):** In March, UNICEF and South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC) responded to suspected meningitis outbreaks in Imoruk and Khormus payams in Eastern Equatoria. SSRC deployed 56 trained community mobilisers and reached 6,635 people from 1,317 households with risk and prevention messages regarding meningitis and registered seven community case referrals. Communities received 1,047 strips of aqua tabs, 2,522 PUR sachets, and 162 units of soap. Radio and talk shows in English and local languages were repeatedly aired in community and FM radio stations to alert on the risk of meningitis and prevention actions. UNICEF continued to respond to RVF outbreaks in three counties of Lakes state. Another C4D implementing partner, through 83 trained community mobilisers has reached a total of 12,848 individuals from 2,837 households during house-to-house visits, as well as an additional 9,912 people in 208 community meetings with RVF prevention messages. These actions were reinforced through regular RVF education on community and FM radio stations in local language. UNICEF also supported the MOH in enabling a hotline service for case reporting and information provision on RVF.

**Supply and Logistics**

Multi-sectoral supplies valued at US $3.4 million were dispatched directly to implementing partners country-wide and through warehouse to warehouse transfers. A twenty-five-truck convoy left Juba for the Western Corridor to make deliveries to Rumbek, Wau, Aweil and Bentiu, as part of the dry-season prepositioning exercise. Nutrition supplies worth US $1.4 million were also dispatched. Vehicles carrying cargo for Yei could not proceed as planned due to insecurity. The logistics cluster convoy has been re-scheduled to depart Juba on 28 March 2018. Despite a security incident along the way, trucks carrying supplies for Pibor successfully managed to deliver cargo on the first road convoy
to the location in several months. The humanitarian barge arrived in Malakal mid-month from Bor, making its first delivery of 2018. The second barge movement is scheduled for 15 April 2018.

**Media and External Communications**

UNICEF issued a joint press release with FAO and WFP on the release of the latest IPC report for South Sudan. This generated significant interest from international media outlets and resulted in four media visits from the New York Times, France Inter, Aljazeera Media Network, and Radio France Internationale. UNICEF celebrated International Women’s Day by profiling Mary Boyoi, a human rights activist on gender-based violence issues, across global UNICEF digital media platforms. UNICEF celebrated World Water Day under the theme “water and childhood” through various media channels.

In partnership with the Embassy of Germany, UNICEF held a media briefing to highlight how the contribution of € 30M from the Government of Germany will be used to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of South Sudan. The media briefing was attended by 18 media households and featured UNICEF South Sudan Representative, Mahimbo Mdoe, and German Ambassador to South Sudan, Jan Hendrik van Thiel, along with WASH, nutrition and child protection experts. Four human interest stories were published on the UNICEF South Sudan website (https://www.unicef.org/southsudan/) on immunization, education in emergencies, HIV and safer childbirth.

**Security**

The general security situation in South Sudan remained fragile with continued, armed skirmishes and mobilization of forces between government forces and armed opposition groups in Upper Nile, Unity and Central Equatoria, despite repeated AU-IGAD, EU, and UN calls for their leadership to refrain from further hostilities, threatening both parties with additional sanctions.

**Funding**

UNICEF’s 2018 HAC requirements for South Sudan in 2018 has a funding gap of 51 per cent out of the appeal for USD 183 million. The funding available under HAC 2018 included carry-forward from 2017, mainly due to multi-year funding as well as substantial funding received in December 2017. The carry-forward figure is provisional and subject to change as part of 2017 financial closure. UNICEF wishes to express its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds Available</th>
<th>Funding Gap ($)</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>48,185,091</td>
<td>17,147,109</td>
<td>17,465,326</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>26,669,780</td>
<td>1,817,505</td>
<td>5,887,710</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>43,455,000</td>
<td>2,406,105</td>
<td>9,000,639</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>25,000,000</td>
<td>2,367,571</td>
<td>10,592,931</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>40,000,000</td>
<td>1,226,984</td>
<td>21,896,493</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>183,309,871</td>
<td>$24,965,273</td>
<td>$64,843,099</td>
<td>$93,501,498 51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figures indicated above are gross (including GR, but not programmable at CO level)

*HAC-funded includes substantial CF funding from year 2017, mainly due to multi-year donor funding and substantial funding received in December 2017

*There are grants included in HAC appeal SS, however as the business area is different to SS it is excluded from table data.

**Next Situation Report:** 30 April 2018

UNICEF South Sudan Crisis: www.unicef.org/southsudan; http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/

UNICEF South Sudan Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicesouthsudan

UNICEF South Sudan Appeal: http://www.unicef.org/appeals/
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UNICEF South Sudan  
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### SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster for 2018</th>
<th>UNICEF and partners for 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target (Jan-Dec)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Results (Jan-Mar)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NUTRITION</strong>³</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of targeted children 6-59 months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admitted to therapeutic care³</td>
<td>209,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of exits from therapeutic care by children 6-59 months who have recovered</td>
<td>&gt;75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of pregnant and lactating women with access to infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling for appropriate feeding</td>
<td>1,013,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HEALTH</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children 6 months to 15 years in humanitarian situations vaccinated for measles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of long-lasting insecticide treated nets (LLITN) distributed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of preventive and curative consultations provided to children under 5 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of target population provided with access to safe water as per agreed standards (7.5-15 litres of water per person per day)⁴</td>
<td>2,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of target population provided with access to appropriate sanitation facilities</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHILD PROTECTION</strong>³</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children reached with psychosocial support (PSS)⁶</td>
<td>271,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and missing children registered⁷</td>
<td>13,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children reached with life-saving mine risk education (MRE)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people reached by gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children and adolescents 3 to 18 years provided with access to education in emergencies⁸</td>
<td>674,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of teachers and members of parent-teacher association (PTA) and school management committee (SMC) trained</td>
<td>5,465</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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¹ UNICEF’s targets for child protection and education are higher than those fixed in the HRP as UNICEF’s requirements in the HAC are higher than those in the HRP.

² The Nutrition Cluster target does not include refugee children who are covered under the Multi-Sector Refugee Appeal, while UNICEF’s nutrition response covers all children, including refugee children residing in the country.

³ Insecurity and access restrictions are constraining the support to malnourished children. Over 40 nutrition sites are currently disrupted.

⁴ This includes people reached with ongoing water supply and services (including trucking and installed sources such as hand pumps and piped water systems) as well as those reached with water supply due to rehabilitation and construction works of new sources.

⁵ The CP target against the HAC 2018 slightly differs from the HRP 2018 target due to the reduced funding for the Child-Protection Sub Cluster. The HPM targets are based on the HAC funding needs.

⁶ PSS and UASC sub-cluster targets are now in line with the HAC.

⁷ The reported numbers for both cluster and UNICEF results are cumulative since the breakout of the conflict in December 2013. In 2018, the UASC indicator reporting methodology has been revised to capture active caseloads only. Progress on the UASC indicator is 0 due to discrepancies in the data reported by IPs. Data currently being analyzed and should be available for next report.

⁸ High results due to schools re-opening in February hence many enrolments done this month.