

UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2020

Overview





FOREWORD

Humanitarian Action for Children 2020

In conflict and disaster, children suffer first and suffer most. Today, one in four of the world's children lives in a conflict or disaster zone — a fact that should shake each of us to our core. All of these children face an uncertain future.

Sadly, the number of countries experiencing conflict is at its highest point since the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989. Nearly nine years of war in the Syrian Arab Republic have left nearly 5 million children in need and more than 2.5 million children living as refugees outside of the country. More than four years of conflict in Yemen have created the world's worst humanitarian crisis. About 1.2 million children in the Central African Republic desperately need help after six years of war.

In other ongoing conflicts in Afghanistan, Libya, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia and South Sudan — and many more — children pay the heaviest price. Around the world, more than 30 million children have been displaced by conflict. Many of them are being enslaved, trafficked, abused and exploited. Many more are living in limbo, without official immigration status or access to education and health care.

From the Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh to the outflow of families from Central America seeking a safer and more dignified life, children have been uprooted by conflict and violence in historic numbers.

Diseases such as Ebola and measles are also re-emerging, often in conflict zones. They further complicate the humanitarian response in places where access is more and

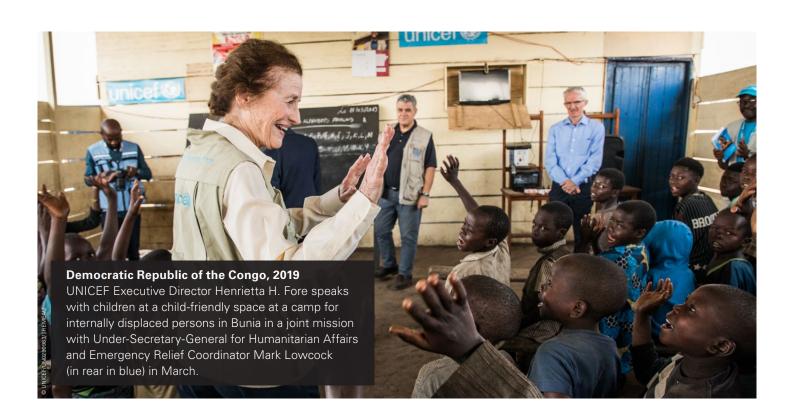
more restricted — such as in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where the current Ebola outbreak is the world's second largest and deadliest on record.

At the same time, extreme weather events are creating more frequent and destructive natural disasters worldwide. More than half a billion children now live in areas with extremely high flood occurrence, and almost 160 million are in areas with high drought severity. Regions like the Sahel, where livelihoods rely on agriculture, grazing and fishing, are especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

All too often, armed groups exploit the social grievances that arise under such pressurized conditions. Across West and Central Africa, violence and insecurity are already robbing nearly 2 million children — an entire generation — of their right to education.

Faced with these challenges, UNICEF and partners have responded to emergencies in 61 countries in 2019. In the first eight months of the year, we provided humanitarian assistance to nearly 29 million children – substantially on track to reach the target of 53 million by 31 December.

In eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, we worked with local partners, community and religious leaders, the media and businesses to bring life-saving information about the Ebola virus to more than 25 million people at risk. In Yemen, we provided mental health and psychosocial support to nearly 400,000 children and caregivers facing the horrors of war



and displacement. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, we vaccinated more than 280,000 children to protect them from measles and avert the spread of this dangerous but preventable disease. In Mozambique, after two devastating cyclones, we have improved access to safe water for more than 1.5 million people.

But the challenges persist. UNICEF's appeal, *Humanitarian Action for Children 2020*, aims to assist 59 million children in humanitarian emergencies in the coming year.

As UNICEF works to save young lives in these critical situations, we also innovate to make a sustained impact. Cost-effective initiatives such as community-based education in Afghanistan and radio programming in Burkina Faso, for example, provide alternative learning opportunities for children when schools are too dangerous to attend.

In other cases, we provide training for community members, including teachers, to cope with traumatic events themselves and nurture children under stress. We have learned from experience how to identify and train members of affected communities to provide mental health and psychosocial support services.

Survivors of gender-based violence, and women and girls at risk, urgently need such support — and they are at the forefront of humanitarian programming carried out by UNICEF and partners. Local women's organizations such as the Somali Women's Development Centre, which operates support centres and a hotline to address gender-based violence in Mogadishu, play a central role in these efforts.

UNICEF also works to strengthen the links between humanitarian action and development work. Our presence in many countries before, during and after emergencies delivers a continuum of support. The rehabilitation and upgrade of water and sanitation systems serve vulnerable households in both the immediate crisis and the longer term, for instance. We also build the long-term capacity of health ministries and civil society partners to identify, treat and prevent chronic conditions such as malnutrition.

Sustainable interventions are important because crises are not one-time shocks; their impact can last for years. That is why flexible funding is essential for multi-year planning to rapidly and equitably reach every child at every stage of a humanitarian emergency and its aftermath.

Children and young people affected by crises call for concrete action to protect and promote their rights — today and into the future. They want to be part of shaping the solutions. We cannot answer their call without you, our partners. But with our collective action, we can make a life-changing difference for children and young people at risk.

Henrietta H. Fore
UNICEF Executive Director

FUNDING REQUIRED IN 2020

Humanitarian Action for Children 2020

East Asia and the Pacific Region	US\$
Regional Office	8,751,800
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	19,500,000
Myanmar	40,721,000
Total	68,972,800

Eastern and Southern Africa Region	US\$
Regional Office	17,200,000
Angola	15,800,000
Burundi	16,500,000
Eritrea	18,811,000
Ethiopia	161,237,578
Kenya	30,021,640
Madagascar	7,625,000
Mozambique	20,547,648
Rwanda	8,000,000
Somalia	127,033,943
South Sudan	180,481,390
Uganda	50,119,979
Zimbabwe	11,026,650
Total	664,404,828

Europe and Central Asia Region	US\$
Regional Office	1,923,000
Refugee and migrant response in Europe*	27,323,190
Ukraine	9,834,500
Total	39,080,690

Latin America and the Caribbean Region	US\$
Regional Office	19,500,000
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	153,247,000
Children and populations affected by the migration flows from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela*	64,566,000
Haiti	18,586,000
Total	255,899,000

Middle East and North Africa Region	US\$
Regional Office	10,400,000
Iraq	58,854,223
Libya	26,258,400
State of Palestine	18,402,256
Sudan	147,111,496
Syrian Arab Republic	294,800,037
Syrian refugees*	864,114,705
Yemen	534,982,568
Total	1,954,923,685

^{*}Multiple countries included in the appeal.



This map is stylized and not to scale.

It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or area or the delimitation of any frontiers. The dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the Parties. The final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

South Asia Region	US\$
Regional Office	7,500,000
Afghanistan	72,050,000
Bangladesh	129,070,000
Pakistan	52,535,786
Total	261,155,786

West and Central Africa Region	US\$
Regional Office	18,250,000
Burkina Faso	96,666,528
Cameroon	48,937,000
Central African Republic	58,200,000
Chad	51,680,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo	262,661,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo – Ebola response	125,570,234
Mali	51,850,000
Mauritania	13,420,000
Niger	59,372,000
Nigeria	145,219,262
Republic of Congo	12,141,000
Total	943,967,024
Global support	39,362,637
Grand total	4,227,766,450

PLANNED RESULTS IN 2020

Humanitarian Action for Children 2020

The information below summarizes the global requirements for UNICEF humanitarian programmes, the total number of people and children to be reached and the planned results in *Humanitarian Action for Children 2020*.

UNICEF PLANS TO ASSIST:

95 million people

49 MILLION
WOMEN/GIRLS

4 MILLION PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

INCLUDING:
59 million children

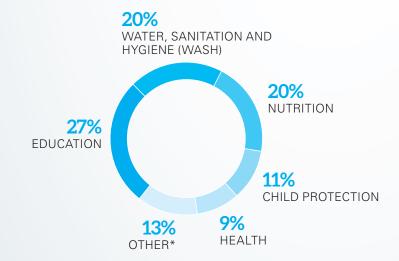
2 MILLION CHILDREN
WITH DISABILITIES





THIS WILL REQUIRE: US\$4.2 billion

Percentage of total requirements per sector:



.....

UNICEF and partners will work towards the following results in 2020:



NUTRITION

5.1 million children to be treated for severe acute malnutrition



HEALTH

8.5 million children to be immunized against measles



WASH

28.4 million people to have access to safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene



CHILD PROTECTION

4.5 million children and caregivers to have access to mental health and psychosocial support



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN EMERGENCIES

1.4 million children and women to have access to gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions



EDUCATION

10.2 million children to have access to formal or non-formal education, including early learning



CASH-BASED TRANSFERS

1.7 million people to be reached with cash assistance



COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

49 million at-risk/affected children and adults to be engaged through communication for development/community engagement

^{*}This includes costs from other sectors/interventions (e.g., social protection, advocacy/communications and peacebuilding) (4%), regional preparedness, response and technical support (3%), communication for development (2%), rapid response mechanisms (1%), non-food items (1%), cash transfer assistance (1%), cluster coordination (<1%) and HIV and AIDS (<1%).

CHILDREN IN CRISIS

The map below highlights some of the major crises affecting children and their families at the end of 2019.

Ukraine

In eastern Ukraine, 3.4 million people, including 430,000 children, are bearing the brunt of the five-year, protracted conflict, with direct threats to their physical and mental well-being, and limited access to basic services.



Refugee and migrant situation in Europe

Between January and early September 2019, 57,000 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe, one quarter of them children. Refugee and migrant children - particularly girls and boys traveling alone - are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, including gender-based violence.



Migration flows from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

The unprecedented socio-economic and political crisis in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has left some 7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance inside the country. Across Latin America and the Caribbean, 6.5 million people will need assistance in 2020, including 1.9 million children.





Insecurity and violence in the Central Sahel have propelled forced displacement and the humanitarian emergency to unprecedented levels, leaving 721,000 children under 5 years at risk of severe acute malnutrition. The past three years have also witnessed a six-fold increase in school closures due to violence. More than 3,000 schools are closed, affecting 610,000 children



Arrows represent the movement of people to neighbouring countries due to conflict.

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Syrian Arab Republic and the sub-region

After eight years of conflict, the scale, severity and complexity of humanitarian needs in the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries remain extensive. In the Syrian Arab Republic, nearly 11 million people - more than half of the population – require humanitarian assistance. Across the sub-region, there are 5.6 million registered Syrian refugees, including over 2.5 million children, living in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt.*

Afghanistan

Humanitarian needs driven by armed conflict, natural disasters and poverty are on the rise in Afghanistan. In 2020, 9.4 million people – 54 per cent of them children - will require humanitarian and protection assistance.



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The humanitarian situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is characterized by chronic food insecurity and lack of access to life-saving basic services, with profound impacts on the most vulnerable. More than one third of the population lacks access to safe drinking water.



Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh and Myanmar

By September 2019, Cox's Bazar District in Bangladesh was hosting over 910,000 Rohingya refugees from Myanmar, including 730,000 refugees who have been trapped for over two years. In Myanmar, children and their families remain highly vulnerable, with some 905,000 people in need of protection.





Ebola response (Burundi, the **Democratic Republic of the Congo,** Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda)

The Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is the second largest ever and the first in a conflict zone, with 3,000 confirmed cases, including more than 900 children. The risk that the outbreak will spill over into neighbouring countries, including Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda, remains high.



Yemen

Five years into the conflict, the humanitarian crisis in Yemen remains the largest emergency globally, with more than 24 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Some 3.6 million people are internally displaced and over 368,000 children under 5 years are suffering from severe acute malnutrition.



RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2019

As of 31 August 2019

The chart below captures some of the key results achieved against targets for children by UNICEF and partners through the first eight months of 2019. In some contexts, achievements were constrained by limited humanitarian funds (see country funding levels on page 11); inadequate humanitarian access; insecurity; challenging operating environments; limited capacities of implementing partners; and delayed programme initiation, for a variety of reasons. Despite these challenges, significant results were achieved by leveraging UNICEF and partners' core and other resources, and implementing cost-effective and innovative interventions. Further reporting on 2019, including country-specific indicators, is available on the respective country web pages on <www.unicef.org/appeals>.



NUTRITION
2.1 MILLION

children treated for severe acute malnutrition





HEALTH
28.9 MILLION

children vaccinated against measles





WASH
32.2 MILLION

people provided with access to safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene





2.6 MILLION

children and caregivers accessed mental health and psychosocial support





EDUCATION

3.9 MILLION

children accessed formal or non-formal education, including early learning





CASH TRANSFERS

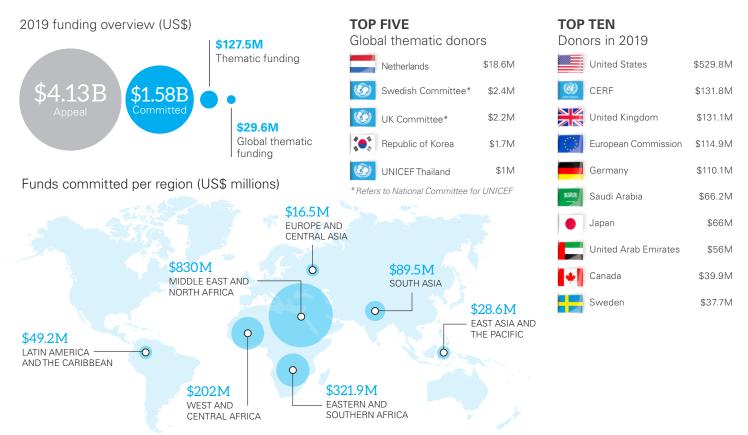
850,000

people provided with cash assistance





HUMANITARIAN FUNDING IN 20191



Conflict remained the main driver of humanitarian needs in 2019, while extreme weather events, hunger and infectious diseases drove many people to seek and depend on emergency aid. Millions of children uprooted from their homes were in desperate need of protection and humanitarian assistance. Overall, 183.6 million people required humanitarian support globally during the year, and more funding than ever was required to help them.

At the start of 2019, UNICEF requested US\$3.92 billion through the Humanitarian Action for Children appeal. By November, the appeal had reached US\$4.13 billion. Escalating insecurity and limited access to services in countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali, the Sudan and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as natural disasters, including Cyclone Idai in Eastern and Southern Africa and drought in Angola, Kenya, Pakistan and Zimbabwe, contributed to the increasing needs.

International humanitarian assistance from the public and private sectors rose in 2019, compared with the same period in 2018. By November, UNICEF had received US\$1.58 billion² in donor commitments towards the Humanitarian Action for Children appeal. In addition, thanks to multi-year funding support, UNICEF had US\$761 million available from the previous year. Nearly two thirds of the funding received in 2019 came from the United States of America, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the European Commission and Germany.

Despite the generous support of donors, as of November, the funding shortfall remained significant at 43 per cent. Over half of the funds received focused on the large-scale, protracted crises in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (including the Ebola outbreak response), South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, neighbouring countries hosting Syrian refugees and Yemen. Seventy-two per cent of all commitments went to support 10 countries, out of the 47 countries with appeals launched in 2019. Many responses remained underfunded, including the situations in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Pakistan, Uganda and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela – all of which had funding gaps exceeding 70 per cent.

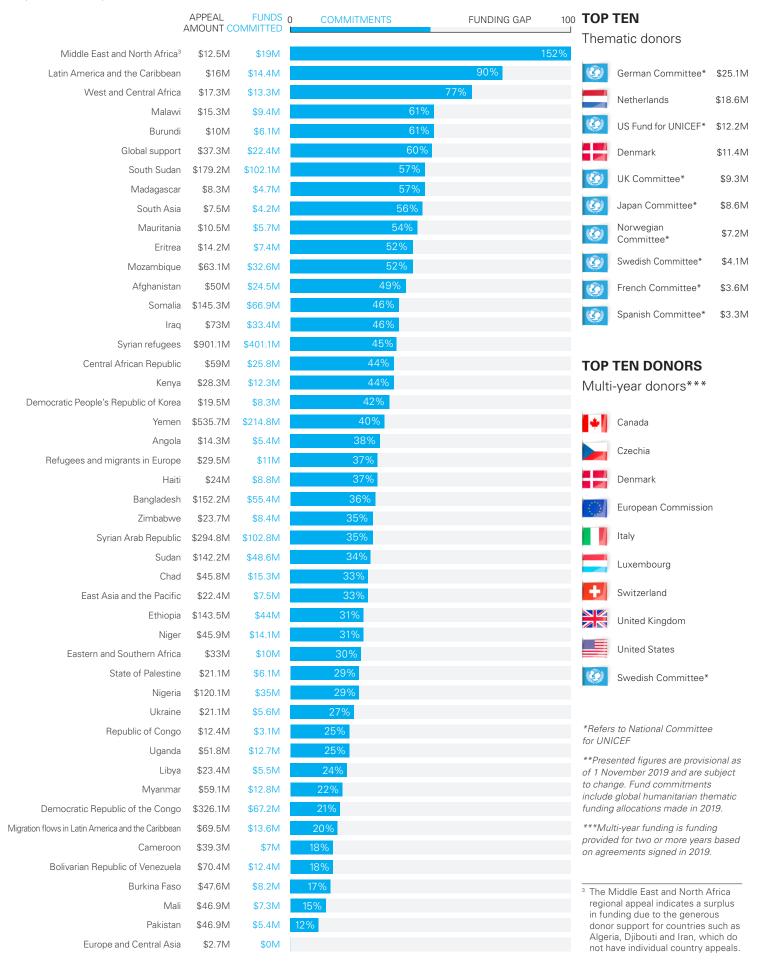
Of the funds received in 2019, US\$127.5 million (8 per cent) was thematic funding for humanitarian responses at the country, regional and global levels. Global humanitarian thematic funding – the most flexible funding after regular resources – made up 2 per cent of the total commitments received. Allocations of global humanitarian thematic funding were used to expand activities and respond to increasing needs in countries such as Burkina Faso where displacement rose dramatically, and the Sudan, where violence and unrest continued to escalate. These funds also enabled UNICEF to respond to cholera in Haiti; fill critical gaps in WASH, nutrition and health in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; and support the health response and emergency preparedness in the State of Palestine.

UNICEF will continue to adapt and respond to critical humanitarian needs as they evolve and advocate with partners for flexible thematic and multi-year funding, which is crucial to meeting the needs of children everywhere.

¹ Figures presented in this narrative are provisional as of 1 November 2019 and are subject to change.

² Provisional funds committed as of 1 November, as per the contribution agreements against the current appeal year.

Humanitarian Action for Children: Funding commitments and shortfalls in 2019 (US\$ millions)**



GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR UNICEF'S HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Humanitarian action is at the core of UNICEF's mandate to realize the rights of every child. UNICEF's global humanitarian architecture – which includes the organization's 7 regional offices and 10 headquarters divisions – supports humanitarian action at the country level. It enables UNICEF country offices to scale up their emergency preparedness and response, effectively deliver humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable, address children's rights and protect them from violence, abuse and exploitation.

UNICEF's Office of Emergency Programmes coordinates the organization's global support, including through a security team and the 24-hour, 7-day Operations Centre. In 2020, this support will cost US\$71.2 million. UNICEF will cover 45 per cent of this cost through core resources. For 2020, UNICEF requires US\$39.4 million in flexible and multi-year funding to cover the remaining needs.

Global support in 2019

Five Level 3 emergencies required organization-wide mobilization, including global resource mobilization, in 2019: the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cyclone Idai in Mozambique, and the protracted crises in Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.

As of the end of September 2019, investments in UNICEF's global support translated into the following achievements:

- The revision of the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action (CCCs) was initiated to better reflect the diversity of humanitarian crises and guide principled, timely, predictable and efficient humanitarian response, in line with updated norms and standards.
- UNICEF renewed and expanded partnerships with the
 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
 and the World Food Programme (WFP); continued to
 support the implementation of the UNHCR, WFP, Office
 for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
 and UNICEF Principals statement on cash assistance;
 conducted six country case studies on collaboration with
 the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent
 Societies (IFRC); and organized the first global consultation
 with humanitarian non-governmental organization
 partners since 2012 to improve how we work together
 in emergencies.

 Advocacy on the impact of crises on children was strengthened, with more than 30 high-level statements issued at the global and field levels, four statements to the Security Council Working Group on children and armed conflict and an intervention by the UNICEF Executive Director at the Security Council Open Debate on children and armed conflict.



US\$267.6 million in supplies procured

for countries responding to emergencies⁴



US\$54.5 million⁵

through the **Emergency Programme Fund** to 22 country

offices and 2 regional offices



80% of country offices

updated their risk analysis and preparedness plans⁶



1.85 million affected people reached

through U-Report7 in 12 countries

Surge support

(includes Emergency Response Team, Rapid Response Team and standby personnel)



V AND

37 countries
totalling 26,597 days of support

- ⁴ Ninety-five per cent went to Level 2 and Level 3 emergencies.
- ⁵ These are revolving funds disbursed to field offices within 48 hours of a sudden humanitarian crisis, before donor resources are available, to continue critical humanitarian actions where funding is delayed.

IN

- ⁶ Three country offices identified as very high-risk received US\$1.5 million to rapidly expand their preparedness levels.
- 7 U-Report is a social messaging tool that allows young people and all affected populations to share feedback and complaints on humanitarian service delivery.

Emergency Response Team support to the gender response in Cameroon

The North-West and South-West regions of Cameroon are in acute crisis, with persistent violence, deteriorating security and increasing protection violations. Nearly 1.3 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance and 536,000 people have been displaced.8 Children and women are disproportionately affected.



Cameroon, 2019 a community-based hygiene promotion activity in South-West Cameroon.

As part of its global support to the humanitarian response in Cameroon, in early 2019, UNICEF deployed an Emergency Response Team member to establish a field presence in conflict-affected regions and to support the integration of gender into the humanitarian response. The pilot Rapid Response Mechanism, which was made possible by flexible funds received from donors for global support, was instrumental in shaping a more equitable, effective and gender-sensitive response.

Key results include:



r 2,300 women and 2,600 girls hygiene support.



5.000 children (2,400 girls) received



Over 1,500 caregivers infant and young child feeding counselling.



Half of Rapid Response Mechanism members were



Nearly 19.000 people (4.000 girls and 5,800 women) benefited from community-based sensitization on nutrition, health and WASH

Global support for the response to Cyclone Idai in Mozambique

Tropical Cyclone Idai made landfall at the port of Beira, Mozambique in March 2019 before moving across the region. Millions of people in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe have been affected by what is the worst natural disaster to hit southern

Africa in at least two decades.

Mozambique, 2019

Outside Beira, Mozambique, a child fills a jerrycan full of water from a UNICEF tap at the Mendruzi Resettlement Site for people

UNICEF was the first to reach the affected areas and immediately planned a response that aimed to address the most urgent needs, while strengthening existing systems, local capacities and resilience. Drawing on global support, UNICEF was able to deploy 13 personnel from headquarters, regional offices and standby partners for a period of three months - before a new office was established for long-term support.

In all aspects of the response, **UNICEF** worked with local actors to build capacities and support longer-term recovery:



Life-saving WASH assistance was existing water points/systems new infrastructure.



Schools were reconstructed to be more resilient to future shocks and on disaster preparedness.



Cholera rapid response teams and community health workers were sites and hard-to-reach areas.

Looking ahead

In 2020, UNICEF will continue to ensure that the most vulnerable people, including women, children and persons with disabilities, are reached with the support they need during emergencies. This will include improving accountability to crisis-affected communities, localizing emergency response and promoting the centrality of protection. UNICEF will review its humanitarian action to foster principled humanitarian access and leadership to maximize equitable coverage and quality of response in complex emergencies; harness evidence and learning for principled emergency programmes at all levels; and roll out the revised CCCs. Training on humanitarian

cash transfers will be rolled out in all regions to strengthen capacities to scale up cash programmes in the field. Standby partnerships will be expanded to include more local actors, and key partnerships will be operationalized to reach even more children. UNICEF will strengthen humanitarian coordination to more effectively analyse and prioritize humanitarian needs. And country offices will be supported to conduct sharper risk analysis and horizon scanning for better emergency preparedness.

⁸ As of August 2019.

GLOBAL SUPPORT

for UNICEF's humanitarian action in 2020

Total cost of **global support** in 2020:

US\$71.2 million

UNICEF's Office of Emergency Programmes coordinates the organization's global support, comprising three major components:

REGIONAL SUPPORT US\$6.1 million

- Europe and Central Asia
- East Asia and the Pacific
- Eastern and Southern Africa
- Latin America and the Caribbean

(2)

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT US\$14.6 million















HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMME SUPPORT US\$50.5 million









- ¹ Conducted through the headquarters Emergency Unit and three models of deployment.
- This includes procurement, warehousing and logistical support.
- "This includes information management.
- With United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, civil society and academia.
- ^v For nutrition, health, WASH, child protection, education, HIV and AIDS and cross-sector priorities.
- vi On the CCCs, equity, protection of civilians, knowledge management, innovation, high-threat environments, humanitarian advocacy and cash-based transfers.



Total cost covered by UNICEF core resources: US\$31.9 million

2020 funding requirement: US\$39.4 million

Delivered by UNICEF's seven regional offices to the respective country offices for humanitarian action, capacity building and technical support.

- Middle East and North Africa
- South Asia
- West and Central Africa









Information and communications technology



Resource mobilization



















Further information on UNICEF's humanitarian action can be obtained from:

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Cover photo: Yemen, 2019

arms, where they were vaccinated during a mobile measles and rubella vaccination campaign supported by UNICEF in February.

Back cover photo: Afghanistan, 2019

Grade 3 students sit outdoors during their classes at the Bodyalai Girls' School in Bodyalai village, Kuz Kunar district, Nangarhar province.

Office of Emergency Programmes

www.unicef.org/appeals

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