

UNICEF's Sector-Specific Funding Concerns in Darfur, Sudan

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Water: UNICEF and partners have assisted over 2.3 million people, or 70 per cent of the conflict-affected population, in gaining access to water by maintaining and rehabilitating 1,301 sources and constructing 770 new sources. Maintenance and expansion requires substantial resources. Any scaling back of water and sanitation services without a reciprocal government investment could result in an increase in water-related disease.

EPI: Currently, 80 per cent of the UNICEF-supported health centres are providing EPI services with DPT3 coverage of 61 per cent for U-1 children. Lack of funding could result in an increase in the incidents of communicable disease. If UNICEF is forced to scale-back operations, immunization and PHC activities will collapse and outbreaks will doubtless occur.

Nutrition: UNICEF supported partners managing 61 therapeutic and 115 supplementary feeding centres that helped rehabilitate 20,571 severely and 200,000 moderately malnourished children. Cutting funding to these programmes will result in a rise in child mortality as those who become malnourished may not recover.

Education: More children than ever are enrolled in school in Darfur. By the end of 2005, 382,794 (46 per cent girls) were enrolled. Cutting funding to education programmes will result in deterioration of the learning environment and loss of teachers, thus provoking a drop in enrolment and eventual reduced capacity, both for individuals and communities in Darfur.

Child Protection: UNICEF supports child-friendly spaces and psycho-social activities reaching over 170,000 internally displaced persons and conflict-affected children. Without these spaces and activities, children lack access to safe havens and services in their communities for improving their psycho-social well-being.