

HORN OF AFRICA FLOODS: ETHIOPIA, KENYA AND SOMALIA

Immediate Needs for Children and Women
Affected by the Horn of Africa floods

NOVEMBER 2006 – FEBRUARY 2007



1. GENERAL SITUATION

Unusually heavy rains during the months of October and November have turned large parts of the Horn of Africa into flood disaster areas, particularly affecting Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia. Across the three countries it is estimated that 1.5 million people have been directly affected and with the continuing rains in some parts, that number could reach upwards of 3 million by the end of December. The floods have led to a loss of life, massive displacement and considerable damage to livelihoods.

In addition to the immediate, life threatening events of floods, outbreaks of cholera have been detected and the incidence of diseases such as malaria is feared to increase dramatically as a result of flooding and subsequent stagnant water. In many parts of the region, many water supplies are submerged in flood waters while latrines have either collapsed or flooded. Ensuring access to and the use of safe water and sanitation to prevent outbreaks of water borne and water related diseases, and the prevention and treatment of malaria and diarrhoea, remains the priority.

While the emergency response has been launched, it is being hampered by insufficient information, damaged or destroyed infrastructure, lack of fuel and continuing heavy rains in the region.

2. UNICEF'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND ESTIMATED FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNED ACTION FROM DECEMBER 2006 TO FEBRUARY 2007

UNICEF has responded quickly to the current situation of floods and disease outbreaks in all three countries, supported by the regional office in Nairobi. The flood situation is not static and the situation changes daily with some areas drying and presenting challenges of disease outbreaks while other areas receive heavy rains and more displacement.

Furthermore, the flood disaster in the Horn of Africa is overshadowed by the possibility of conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia that could bring about widespread population displacement both within Somalia and across borders into already flood affected and vulnerable areas of North Eastern Kenya and the Somali region of Ethiopia. UNICEF, as part of the United Nations Country Teams in the three affected countries, is pre-positioning critical supplies in strategic locations in order to launch an effective and immediate response in the event of worsening flooding or a conflict-induced regionalized humanitarian crisis.

The total funding required by UNICEF in the three countries and at the regional level is \$30,430,000 to address the immediate needs for those affected by the floods; to ensure access to basic services such as health and nutrition services, adequate quantities of safe water, sanitation and hygiene services; to ensure the protection of women and children affected by the flooding and displacement including separated and unaccompanied children; and to support the resumption of learning activities for school aged children whose school year has been disrupted. In addition, the funding required will serve to procure and pre-position critical humanitarian supplies such as: tarpaulins, jerry cans, hygiene supplies, blankets, essential drug kits, emergency health kits, water purification supplies, latrine slabs etc to enable UNICEF to launch a rapid and effective response should the humanitarian crisis deepen across the region.

The total consolidated funding gap across the region is US\$ 24,205,907, the details of which are presented below on a country basis. Funds raised in excess of this appeal will be used in other emergencies in Africa.

Table 1: Funding requirements and receipts per country

COUNTRY/ OFFICE	FUNDING REQUIRED (US\$)	RECEIPTS (US\$)	FUNDING GAP (US\$)
Ethiopia	9,000,000	763,093	8,236,907
Kenya	12,000,000	3,461,000	8,539,000
Somalia	8,500,000	2,000,000	6,500,000
Regional Support	930,000	0	930,000
TOTAL	30,430,000	6,224,093	24,205,907

ETHIOPIA

1. CRITICAL ISSUES FOR CHILDREN

During the last week of October 2006, the Wabi-Shebelle River burst its banks and flooded the Lower Shebelle areas of Gode and Afder zones in Somali region of Ethiopia. The overflow of the Weyib and Fafen rivers also inundated parts of Liben and Korahe zones, respectively. Altogether, the unprecedented flooding has killed 80 people and affected 361,619 people, of which 72,000 are children and 122,500 are displaced. In addition, the floods washed away livestock and damaged the already scarce infrastructure, including bridges and roads. Due to inaccessibility, the full extent of the damage caused by the floods is not yet known.

To date there have been 40,000 cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea across Ethiopia including 15,000 children. The epidemic has been confirmed in the flood affected areas of Moyale and Filtu woredas and unconfirmed outbreaks have been reported from other parts of the region. The acute watery diarrhoea epidemic has been significantly exacerbated as a result of the floods and has accelerated into the flood affected areas and presents a serious challenge to survival and recovery efforts.

The overwhelming majority of the region's population does not have access to potable water and access to sanitation facilities is limited to major urban centres. The public health care system is weak, accessible to less than 40% of the public, and suffers chronic shortages of skilled staff and pharmaceuticals. The health and nutrition situation of internally displaced persons, especially children, is deteriorating rapidly. In addition, prices of non-staple food items have considerably increased in the region due to the floods and thus there is a propensity for a worsening of the already precarious nutrition situation.

Children displaced by the recent overflowing of the Wabi Shebelle River in Somali National Regional State are no longer able to go school and some schools have been washed away completely.

Immediate attention must also be given to separated children, child headed households and children who have suffered deep trauma as a result of losing members of their households, separation, and total loss of livelihoods. Trafficking has been observed and reported as one of the major risks facing separated children. Young adolescent girls have been found to be particularly exposed to gender based violence and abuse.

Furthermore, given the recent tensions between the ICU in Somalia and the Ethiopian Government, the possibility remains of a deepening of the humanitarian crisis as a result of conflict. As such, the United Nations Country Team has taken a pro-active approach to ensure they are prepared to launch an immediate response in the event of an outbreak of hostilities; it is anticipated that a significant level of displacement could occur, both internally in Somalia and across the borders into Ethiopia. Such a scenario could present severe consequences both to

human life and to livelihoods on the Ethiopian side in the Somali region, an already highly vulnerable area of Ethiopia. Funds, in addition to the immediate flood response requirements, are requested by UNICEF to ensure the necessary critical supplies are pre-positioned.

2. UNICEF's EMERGENCY RESPONSE: ISSUES AND ACTIONS

Health and nutrition

Increased access to basic health and nutrition services for the flood affected population.

Urgent actions:

- Through the provision of essential drugs, emergency health kits, oral rehydration mix, fortified nutritional products, ready to use therapeutic foods and micronutrient supplements, increase access to treatment for common diseases with a focus on Malaria treatment, treatment of Diarrhoeal Diseases and Pneumonia in children and treatment of Acute Malnutrition;
- Increase access to health facilities through the provision of tents to be used as Health Posts and through the provision of 50 health-post kits containing essential supplies and drugs;
- Provide financial and technical support, including refresher training, to the Mobile health teams in order that they can provide outreach care for the displaced and hard to reach populations;
- Support disease prevention and outbreak control activities;
- Support a mop-up vaccination for children ages 6 months to 5 years of age against measles in the flood affected areas. UNICEF will provide vaccines, vitamin A and critical inputs such as cold-chain equipment, training and social mobilization expertise and financial support for advocacy and operational costs;
- Provide to health facilities and health posts, post-rape-care kits where necessary;
- Introduce nutritional monitoring and surveillance within the flood affected areas;
- Ensure rapid rehabilitation of health services at the community level;
- Ensure pre-positioning of essential supplies to treat severe acute malnutrition with the expectation of an increase in the caseload due to the destruction of crops and food supplies;
- Procure and pre-position, in strategic locations, essential health and nutrition supplies for a possible worsening of the flood situation or in the event of a humanitarian crisis resulting from a conflict with Somalia.

Water and environmental sanitation

To strive to ensure the provision of safe drinking water and hygiene services for flood-affected populations with a focus on displaced families.

Urgent Actions:

- Provide water to the affected population through the rehabilitation of water schemes, treated surface water and the distribution of water containers;
- Provide support to government institutions and monitor the implementation of emergency water, sanitation and hygiene activities;
- Train community health promoters and community leaders on the key messages to prevent and treat acute watery diarrhoea;
- Carry out hygiene promotion activities through the distribution of soap; community mobilization and awareness raising; monitoring the hygiene situation at market places and food providers; and using public meetings and mobile health vans to educate the community on good hygiene practices;
- Provide hygiene education training for staff in the diarrhoea case treatment centres and provide CTC hygiene, sanitation, & isolation kits;

- Construct communal and improved pit latrines with hand washing facilities and demonstration waste disposal sites;
- Prepare and disseminate radio spot messages on the use of safe water and personal hygiene practices;
- Procure and pre-position in strategic locations essential emergency water and sanitation supplies for a possible worsening of the flood situation or in the event of a humanitarian crisis resulting from conflict with Somalia.

Education

Promote the early resumption of learning activities for those affected by the floods.

Urgent actions:

- Provide essential writing and educational materials to 6,000 primary school students in the flood affected woredas and schools of Somali region;
- Procure and supply basic school furniture and teaching aids such as combined desks and blackboards for 6 primary schools that are hosting or expected to host children displaced due to the recent flooding;
- Establish 6 semi-permanent learning centres at food distribution sites for out of school youth and children who are displaced due to the adverse effects of ongoing flooding in the Somali region;

Child Protection

To strive to ensure the provision of protection services for women and children in the flood affected areas of Ethiopia with a focus on areas hosting displaced families.

Urgent Actions:

- Support tracing and reunification activities for separated children;
- Undertake activities to prevent Gender-based violence (GBV) and strengthen reporting mechanisms;
- Support the prevention of trafficking through sensitization and consolidation of the Police's Anti Trafficking Units;
- Undertake field Coordination and technical support for youth associations;

Shelter and non-food items

To respond to the immediate and basic needs of households and to reduce the effects of exposure, through the timely provision of basic shelter and household items for flood affected families.

Urgent actions:

- Distribute the following items to the most vulnerable families with a particular focus on women and children: water jugs and washing bowls, blankets, utensils and cooking sets, and shelter materials such as plastic sheeting, tarpaulins and tents;
- Procure and pre-position in strategic locations non-food items and shelter materials to enable an immediate response in the event of a worsening of the flood situation or in the event of a humanitarian crisis resulting from conflict with Somalia;

Logistics

To ensure essential supplies reach those most in need in the difficult to access Somali region.

Urgent actions:

- Provide technical support for logistics;
- Provide the means for airlifting essential supplies to flood affected areas.

Coordination

In the Somali Region, the numbers of possible implementing partners are limited. However, due to its long experience in the region, UNICEF has reliable partners that will ensure the implementation of the above activities providing that the security situation remains stable.

For UNICEF, partnership with Regional Health Bureau, Regional Water Bureau, DPPB, and ARRA as well as with local and international NGOs will be crucial for implementation of the activities. Strong coordination in terms of logistics, human and financial resources as well as technical support will be required in Addis Ababa, Jijiga and Gode.

3. ESTIMATED FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNED ACTION FROM DECEMBER 2006 TO FEBRUARY 2007

UNICEF requires US\$ 9,000,000 to meet the needs of children and women throughout the affected areas over the coming three months. To date, UNICEF has received US\$ 763,093 from the CERF.

Table 2: Funding requirements and receipts for Ethiopia

SECTORS	US\$
Water Environment and Sanitation	2,850,000
Health & Nutrition	3,350,000
Education	500,000
Child Protection	400,000
Logistics	300,000
Shelter and Non-food items	1,600,000
TOTAL	9,000,000
Funds Received to Date	763,093
TOTAL FUNDING GAP	8,236,907

KENYA

1. CRITICAL ISSUES FOR CHILDREN

Following three years of drought that has greatly affected the 80 per cent of Kenya that is classified as arid or semi arid, leading to a declaration of national disaster in July 2004 and a deepening humanitarian crisis that grabbed international attention early in 2006, Kenya has been affected by heavy rains in October 2006 leading to flooding in November. The Kenya Meteorological Department had predicted a mild El Nino effect on Kenya in September which has resulted in well above average rainfall. At the end of November the most affected areas are in the north-east and coastal areas of the country, particularly the Tana River basin, where people have been displaced by high river water, Dadaab refugee camp, located in an area that becomes a swamp when rainfall is high and parts of the coast, especially Kwale District. An estimated 700,000 people are badly affected, 100,000 of whom are Somali refugees.

The usual pattern of flooding in Kenya is that the western more densely populated parts of the country in the Lake Victoria basin are hit after the coast and north-east, but are hit harder. This is where levels of poverty are at their most intense in Kenya, even more than in the arid north. Population is dense, under-five mortality rates are higher than anywhere else in the country due to years of under investment in health services, endemic malaria and HIV prevalence rates that, in places, are as high as in Swaziland. Between 1 and 3 million people could be in need of assistance in Western and Nyanza Province, with upwards of 20,000 already displaced by the end of November. To complete the picture in the last few days the North-West has been hit by flooding close to Kakuma refugee camp.

The situation in the north-east is complicated by a deteriorating security situation in Somalia evidenced by large number of Somali refugees already in the Dadaab camps and new arrivals every day, when road conditions allow on the Somali side of the border. At present over 400 people are stranded at the reception centre on the Somali-Kenya border awaiting transportation to Dadaab camp. The existing Somali refugee camps at Dadaab have been inundated, where the rains have caused severe damage to sanitation facilities, health centres and refugee houses, and have disrupted water provision. Diarrhoea cases have risen dramatically. Overall, 100,000 people out of a total of 160,000 living in the three camps have been heavily affected and 60,000 refugees are being relocated.

More than 180 schools with over 200,000 children have been affected in the Coast and North Eastern Provinces, including the destruction of teaching and learning materials, collapsed walls and latrines and the loss of roofing material.

The largest threat is disease outbreaks, particularly diarrhoeal diseases. A significant increase in the incidence of diarrhoeal disease has been reported and at present the paediatric ward in the most affected area of Garissa is at 140% occupancy and in the past few days 2 children died of diarrhoea. Cholera outbreaks have been reported in Kwale, Mombassa, Busia (in the west) and Moyale, resulting from contaminated water sources, the collapse of the drainage systems and water pipes washed away in many locations. Of concern is that the neighbouring countries of Tanzania, Sudan, Uganda and Zanzibar have all reported significant cholera outbreaks in 2006 with high risk of spreading to Kenya.

Malaria is expected to peak once the flood waters recede, and an outbreak of malaria has already been reported in the north-east. Malaria is one of the main killers of children and has the propensity, under flood conditions, to present the largest threat to child survival. In addition to the threats of disease, the flood affected parts of the country have high levels of malnutrition, with up to 20% of children with acute malnutrition in many of the North Eastern districts. The combination of disease and malnutrition presents a major challenge to child survival now and in the immediate future.

Forecasts for the remainder of November and into December have indicated continuing, and in some locations, increasing, rainfall. While this short rains season was expected to stop at the end of October, the current rains are expected to continue well into January - abnormal for Kenya.

2. UNICEF'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE: ISSUES AND ACTIONS

UNICEF has responded to the current situation of floods and disease outbreaks in the Coastal and North eastern areas of Kenya. However given the likelihood that floods will affect between 1 and 3 million people in Western Kenya as well as the possibility of increased numbers of Somali refugees arriving in Kenya over the coming months, additional funding is required to ensure the necessary stocks are pre-positioned and essential services are prepared.

Health

To strive to ensure the provision of essential health services for all women and children directly affected by the floods in the North Eastern part of Kenya with a focus on displaced families and those living in Dadaab refugee camp. To ensure essential health services are scaled up for a worsening of the flooding in Western Kenya as well as a possible increase in refugees arriving from Somalia over the coming months.

Urgent actions:

- Provide technical support to the Government of Kenya and to the health sector generally to ensure an appropriate response to the needs;
- Ensure the necessary supplies are available for prevention and treatment of malaria including the procurement of supplies of medicine for malaria treatment, long lasting insecticide treated nets, insecticides and larvacides to minimize the transmission of malaria;
- Ensure the necessary supplies are available for the treatment of Diarrhoeal Diseases and Acute Respiratory Diseases in children; this includes access to essential medicines, oral rehydration and IV fluids;
- Provide support for national/ local communication campaigns focusing on messages about hygiene and the use of clean water to prevent diarrhoeal diseases, messages on the use of bed nets and other ways of preventing of malaria and messages to encourage parents to seek early treatment when their children are sick;
- Support the Ministry of Health with funds to provide Routine and Outreach essential health services to the displaced and hard to reach population;
- Support a mop up emergency vaccination, particularly for polio and measles. UNICEF will provide vaccines and vitamin A and critical inputs such as cold-chain equipment, training and social mobilization expertise and financial support for advocacy and operational costs;
- Provide Essential drugs and emergency health kits;
- Ensure rapid rehabilitation of health services at the community level.

Nutrition

To strive to ensure the provision of essential nutrition services for all children in the flood affected areas of North Eastern Kenya with a focus on those displaced by the floods and the Somali refugees in Dadaab camp. To ensure essential nutrition services are scaled up for a worsening of the flooding in Western and North-western Kenya as well as a possible increase in refugees arriving from Somalia over the coming months.

Urgent actions:

- Ensure coordination and technical support for an effective nutrition response to the needs of those affected by the floods;
- Support the Ministry of Health with technical nutrition support for a scaled up response;

- Strengthen nutritional monitoring and surveillance within the flood affected areas;
- Ensure children with severe or moderate malnutrition are identified and referred for treatment. Provide specialised foods and other supplies for treatment of acute malnutrition such as fortified nutritional products, Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods and micronutrient supplements.

Water and Sanitation

To strive to ensure, through co-ordination and direct support to the Government and partners, the provision and use of safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services for the flood affected population in North Eastern Kenya, with a focus on refugees and those displaced by the flooding. Ensure critical water and sanitation supplies are pre-positioned to enable UNICEF and partners to launch an immediate response if the flood situation in Western Kenya worsens or in the event of an increased influx of Somali refugees.

Urgent actions:

- Ensure, in support of and in partnership with the Government of Kenya, the effective coordination of and planning for water, sanitation and hygiene interventions for the existing flood affected population and to ensure provisions are made to enable an immediate response in the event of a worsening of the situation;
- Ensure that the flood affected population is provided with the necessary information and supplies to take action to minimize their exposure to disease; this will be achieved through the provision of technical support, information (posters and radio campaign), essential supplies (soap, shampoo, sanitary material etc) and funding to implementing authorities, agencies and contractors;
- Strive to ensure access of the flood affected population to adequate quantities of safe water for drinking, washing and food preparation with a focus on refugees and those displaced by flooding. This will be undertaken through the provision of technical support and funding, and essential supplies (water treatment chemicals, water testing kits, safe water kits, Jerry cans, aqua tabs, PUR sachets, pumps, pipes, tanks etc);
- Strive to ensure the flood affected population, focusing on refugees and displaced persons, have access to adequate sanitary facilities through the provision of technical support, funding and essential supplies such as: plastic/concrete slabs, tools for digging, materials for supper structures etc;
- Ensure, once flooding has subsided, that the flood affected settlements have access to adequate water and sanitation facilities through early rehabilitation of damaged water supply infrastructure;
- Ensure the pre-positioning of water and sanitation supplies in strategic locations in preparation for a possible worsening of the flood situation in Western Kenya and the possibility of an increase in the influx of refugees from Somalia.

Education

Ensure, through partnership with the Government of Kenya, the resumption of learning activities for school children affected by the floods in North Eastern Kenya and Dadaab Refugee camps when schools open in January 2007.

Urgent actions:

- Support the re-establishment of primary schools in flood affected areas, including needs assessments, emergency rehabilitation and temporary structures to house educational activities pending reconstruction/rehabilitation;
- Ensure the provision of basic educational materials to flood damaged schools and schools hosting additional children from displaced families;
- Ensure the provision of necessary teacher training and psychosocial support.

Child Protection

To strive to ensure the provision of protection services for women and children in the flood affected areas of Kenya with a focus on displaced families and those affected in Dadaab refugee camps.

Urgent actions:

- Ensure that the relief efforts in response to the floods in the North East Province and Coastal Province respond to the protection needs of women and children;
- Ensure that the UN's coordinated response to the floods is gender-sensitive and rights-based;
- Undertake a rapid assessment and regular monitoring of the affected districts, including appraisal and mapping of women and child rights' networks in the affected communities and regularly monitoring the situation for women and children;
- Provide training and resource materials to strengthen the capacity of local women, child rights organizations and aid workers to ensure proper monitoring, reporting and referrals of cases of violence, abuse and exploitation;
- Alongside partners, undertake community awareness raising and mobilization on key child protection issues such as violence against and exploitation of women and children;
- Ensure the provision of psychosocial support services to women and children affected by the flood disaster including refugee women and children;
- Advocate to government, UN and international NGO efforts to ensure that women's associations and networks are part of mainstream relief and development efforts;
- Ensure access to services for registration, tracing and reunification of separated and unaccompanied children;
- Ensure temporary care services are available for unaccompanied children.

Shelter & Non Food Items

To strive to reduce the effects of exposure and the impact of the loss of essential household items, through the timely provision of basic shelter and household items for flood affected families with a focus on displaced families and the affected refugees in Dadaab camp.

Urgent actions:

- Procure and distribute tarpaulins and plastic sheeting, blankets, children's warm clothing and family kits consisting of utensils and cooking equipment, soap and jerry cans;
- Procure and pre-position in strategic locations non-food items and shelter materials to enable an immediate response in the event of a worsening of the flood situation or in the event of an increased influx of refugee from Somalia.

Logistics

To ensure essential supplies reach those most in need.

Urgent actions:

- Provide technical support for logistics;
- To provide the necessary means to meet the costs of airlift and boat transportation to traverse the difficult, flood-affected terrain.

3. ESTIMATED FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNED ACTION FROM DECEMBER 2006 TO FEBRUARY 2007

UNICEF Kenya requires a sum of US\$12,000,000 to address the needs arising over the next three months as a result of the floods. Funds required include immediate needs for more than half a million persons affected by flooding in North Eastern Kenya and the refugee camps. In addition,

funds are sought to ensure pre-positioning of critical supplies to respond to a possible increased influx of Somali refugees. Furthermore, given the high probability that the new flooding in Western Kenya could affect anywhere from 1 up to 3 million people, additional funding is required to ensure the necessary stocks are pre-positioned and essential services are prepared to respond in a timely manner. To date, UNICEF has received US\$ 3,461,000 from the CERF.

Table 3: Funding requirements and receipts for Kenya

SECTORS	US\$
Water Environment and Sanitation	5,000,000
Health	3,000,000
Nutrition	1,500,000
Education	400,000
Child Protection	400,000
Communication	500,000
Logistics	200,000
Shelter and Non-food items	1,000,000
TOTAL	12,000,000
Funds Received to Date	3,461,000
TOTAL FUNDING GAP	8,539,000

SOMALIA

1. CRITICAL ISSUES FOR CHILDREN

Somalia is facing its worst flood crisis in a decade with over 350,000 people directly affected including 70,000 children. Data on projections of estimated populations affected provided by the Food and Agricultural Organization's Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) and based on a combination of emerging data and flood assessment models, show the total number of affected persons expected to increase to in excess of 400,000 over the coming days, indicating that 66,000 children would be at risk. These numbers are projected to reach as high as 900,000 if the rains continue.

Furthermore, there is increasing concern that a new military conflict may bring about widespread population displacement and with it a worsening of the existing humanitarian crisis and a loss of access to the most needy children and communities. The UN Security Council recently agreed to extend the arms ban on Somalia, a move which may allay more immediate fears of an immediate outbreak of conflict between the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the opposing Islamic Courts Union (ICU). However, tensions remain extremely high in Somalia. The Ethiopian National Army (ENA) is in control of Galkayo and Baidoa with up to 50,000 troops reportedly

inside the country. In response, the ICU is reportedly consolidating its forces, and laying mines in some areas and an increase in recruitment of child soldiers has been reported.

This week's rainfall has considerably reduced in the Juba and Shabelle catchments inside Ethiopia. River levels are reported stable and or dropping in many areas. However, longer term forecasts suggest that "El Nino" conditions are expected to strengthen between the end of November and the end of December, raising chances of increased rainfall during this period, particularly over southern Somalia, Middle and Lower Juba regions. Heavy rains have battered coastal areas of Puntland this week and a significant increase in diarrhoea cases have been reported in Eastern Sanaag region.

Roads remain impassable in many areas although recent reports indicate conditions may be improving, as a consequence of this, the full extent of the damage caused by the floods is yet to be known. Although relief efforts are underway, limited road access also continues to hinder the delivery of emergency relief supplies. Large numbers of the affected population, forced to flee rising flood waters, remain without basic non-food items that are essential to maintain even the most basic levels of welfare and dignity. Combined with the effects of exposure due to sudden displacement and the problem of standing water in most areas, children in Southern Somalia are at increased risk of acute respiratory infection, malaria and diarrhoea that require urgent interventions for prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

Set against the current situation, child survival conditions in Somalia remain amongst the poorest in the world, with large areas of the region still recovering from the livelihood crisis induced by one of the worst droughts in recent memory (2005-06). In the present situation, child morbidity is a major concern; incidents of dysentery (acute bloody diarrhoea) and cholera (acute watery diarrhoea) have been reported in Hiran and Middle Juba regions respectively as well as in Puntland. Though a nation-wide measles/vitamin A campaign has just been completed, overall coverage is estimated below 85% indicating there is a continuing risk of measles transmission, one of the biggest killers of children in emergency situations. In addition, vulnerability to pneumonia and acute respiratory tract infections is higher due to the effects of exposure and damp conditions and there is a high risk of a malaria outbreak that could have a devastating impact on families' ability to survive and recover.

2. UNICEF's EMERGENCY RESPONSE: ISSUES AND ACTIONS

In responding to the emergency, UNICEF was able to quickly respond to persons displaced by the floods by drawing down on its pre-positioned emergency supplies from warehouses in Hargeisa ('Somaliland'), Bossaso ('Puntland'), from within Central South (Jowhar, Baidoa and Mogadishu offices) and from Kenya using ships and aircraft. UNICEF's main offices in Central Southern Somalia, in Jowhar and Mogadishu have been key warehousing and coordination centres. This week alone, UNICEF will deliver non-food items for over 24,000 people to Mogadishu for onward despatch to priority areas in Southern Somalia.

UNICEF assistance has benefited an estimated 75,000 people since the emergency flood response began last month. While the distribution of non-food items has been a primary intervention along with the distribution of Global Fund insecticide-treated bed nets, the most immediate threat is water borne disease from poor drinking water due to flood contamination.

UNICEF faces a major challenge in responding to a major humanitarian crisis created by the floods whilst simultaneously preparing for a wider humanitarian emergency in the event of major conflict. Replenishment of emergency stocks is urgently required not only to address the continuing flood crisis but in anticipation of new displacements. The UN Humanitarian Coordinator has emphasized the urgency of getting supplies into Southern Somalia immediately given the humanitarian needs created by floods and possible conflict situation. UNICEF is now in the process of dispatching 100 metric tonnes of relief supplies into flood affected areas to benefit

100,000 flood affected people in the next ten days. Cholera kits are being airlifted to Bossaso to reinforce treatment services if so required. In the scenario of a possible military conflict, UNICEF is assessing the possibility of shifting its operations into Northern Somalia if the already limited access in Central and Southern regions is seriously undermined.

UNICEF is the lead agency for two of the key emergency response clusters: Nutrition and Water and Sanitation in addition to leading the Education cluster. UNICEF's overall emergency flood response plans have been developed through the IASC Somalia cluster framework and the specific UNICEF three month flood response plans are highlighted below:

Health

Increased access to basic health services for the flood affected population with a focus on 350,000 people in the Juba and Shabelle river basins.

Urgent actions:

- Intensified, timely surveillance of communicable diseases;
- Improved access to primary health care services in affected areas through support to mobile clinics, securing adequate drug supply and intensified outreach of immunization services among the affected population;
- Support to outbreak response and control with a focus on diarrhoea, measles and malaria through ensuring adequate drug supplies, distribution of insecticide treated bed-nets, technical support and community mobilization.

Nutrition

To ensure access to essential nutrition services for 350,000 people affected by the floods, with a focus on displaced children and their caregivers. To support the most vulnerable populations whose food stocks were decimated by the floods.

Urgent actions:

- Ensure adequate nutrition supplies are pre-positioned for the ongoing nutrition interventions including blended food, BP5, essential micronutrients and drugs used in systematic treatment in the selective feeding programmes;
- Ensure the delivery of high energy biscuits (BP5) to displaced populations;
- Ensure children who are acutely malnourished are identified and referred for treatment;
- Ensure necessary supplies of ready to use therapeutic foods are available to treat severely malnourished children;
- Undertake tracing activities to identify the most vulnerable populations in their new locations and ensure they receive nutrition support (mobile nutrition strategy and use of light high energy nutrition products);
- Surveillance and monitoring of the nutrition situation in the flood affected and displaced areas.

Water and Sanitation

To strive to ensure the provision of safe drinking water and hygiene services for 350,000 people affected by the flood. To be accomplished through the following:

Urgent actions:

- Ensure effective coordination and coverage of water and sanitation services for the flood affected population;
- Hygiene promotion and mass social mobilization campaigns;
- Chlorination of water supplies after flocculation or dewatering;
- Provision of essential supplies like flocculants, safe water kits, jerry cans, aqua tabs, ORS, pumps and soap;
- Provision of sanitation tools for de-silting (early recovery);

- Pre-positioning of additional supplies in strategic locations as a contingency measure for increased flooding;
- Ensure effective WASHE Cluster leadership.

Child Protection

While no cases of targeting or abuse of children have been reported in the context of the flood crisis, UNICEF is taking measures to upgrade capacities in the event conditions deteriorate while recognizing the possibility of conflict erupting and the ensuing impact on populations and families.

Urgent actions:

- Targeted advocacy and public awareness raising on priority child rights issues pertaining to conflict;
- Rapid assessment and protection monitoring in affected areas;
- Provide psycho-social care and support services to families and children;
- Family tracing and reunification of separated children and unaccompanied minors.

Education

To ensure resumption of learning opportunities for more than 35,000 flood affected children, 1,200 teachers and 300 schools.

Urgent actions:

- To support the re-establishment of 300 primary schools (to Class 8) and NFE centres in affected areas, including needs assessments and planning, and provision of water and sanitation facilities;
- To ensure provision of basic educational services and materials, including temporary structures to house educational activities pending reconstruction and rehabilitation of damaged schools;
- To establish 68 temporary learning spaces in 12 IDP settlements for flood affected families;
- To ensure provision of necessary teacher training and psychosocial support;
- In partnership with WFP, support schools feeding programmes;
- Ensure effective Education Cluster leadership.

Shelter and non-food items

To reduce the effects of exposure and trauma associated with sudden displacement through the timely provision of relevant shelter and household items to families.

Urgent actions:

- Procure and distribute the following items to the most vulnerable families with a particular focus on women and children: family Relief Kits, plastic sheeting, jerry cans, blankets, soap, etc.;
- Procure and pre-position in strategic locations non-food items and shelter materials to enable an immediate response in the event of a worsening of the flood situation or in the event of conflict within Somalia.

3. ESTIMATED FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNED ACTION FROM DECEMBER 2006 TO FEBRUARY 2007

The UN Response Plan for Somalia launched on 6 December requested a total of US\$ 5,150,000 for UNICEF to respond to the floods. This request did not include the health component below and took into account US\$ 4,700,000 already received from the CERF as well as other funds for Somalia that were not specifically for the floods. The requirements below reflect the **total** requirements and receipts. To date, UNICEF has received US\$ 2,000,000 from the CERF.

Table 4: Funding requirements and receipts for Somalia

SECTORS	US\$
Water Environment and Sanitation	2,200,000
Health & Nutrition	800,000
Education	600,000
Child Protection	400,000
Shelter and NFIs	3,700,000
Logistics	600,000
Monitoring and Evaluation	200,000
TOTAL	8,500,000
Funds Received to Date	2,000,000
TOTAL FUNDING GAP	6,500,000

REGIONAL SUPPORT

1. UNICEF'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE: ISSUES AND ACTIONS

The Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office is supporting the three Country Offices (Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia) as they scale up their response to the flood situation and to prepare for a possible deepening of the humanitarian crisis over the coming months. ESARO has purposely prioritized support for the country offices rather than strengthen its own office and additional funds are now required to strengthen the capacity of the regional office to provide timely technical support and guidance.

The critical areas where additional capacity is needed are in emergency nutrition, emergency water and environmental sanitation and hygiene, emergency health, child protection in emergencies, emergency monitoring and evaluation, emergency coordination, and logistics and supply. In addition to the additional surge staffing required, funds are sought to enable the regional advisors to travel to and spend considerable time in the 3 affected countries to provide technical support and guidance. These funds will increase the value of technical support the Regional Office is able to provide to the flood affected countries and will add additional value to the quality and appropriateness of UNICEF's programmatic response in the 3 affected countries.

In particular, funds are sought in health to provide specialized support to disease surveillance, prevention and outbreak control activities; to provide specialized support for surveillance for rift valley fever which wreaked havoc during the 1997 floods and decimated livestock and livelihoods;

and support is required to ensure the humanitarian crisis does not result in any setback in the efforts to keep wild polio under control and eradicated.

In the areas of water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and education, funds are sought for technical support to counties for assessments, strategic guidance and programme planning as well as to support the cluster leadership for enhanced coordination.

In the area of child protection, funds are sought for technical support in the areas of psycho-social support, prevention of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, prevention of HIV/ AIDS, support to training in advocacy for the protection of women and children, prevention of recruitment of children into armed forces and groups, and explosive remnants of war risk education, particularly relevant under the current situation between Somalia and Ethiopia. In addition, supplies are required to support the establishment of Child Friendly Spaces.

In order to advocate for the rights of children and to support information flows to donors, media and others, support is required in the area of communications to support the three countries and to consolidate public information at the regional level given the regionalized nature of this emergency.

Support for monitoring and evaluation is required at regional level to establish critical information systems to monitor UNICEF's performance against our core commitments for children in emergencies, to support country offices' monitoring of their performance and to identify gaps in the response.

In addition to technical programme support, funds are required in the areas of logistics, supply and IT to provide technical support, surge capacity to fast track emergency supply and related logistics, recruitment of an additional supply officer to manage the heavy supply requests, and lastly equipment.

2. ESTIMATED FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNED ACTION FROM DECEMBER 2006 TO FEBRUARY 2007

In order to support the country offices as they ensure the survival and protection of women and children in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya, UNICEF's Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office ESARO requires \$930,000.

Table 5: Funding requirements and receipts for the Regional Office

SECTORS	US\$
Water and Sanitation	140,000
Health	100,000
Emergency Nutrition	110,000
Communication	75,000
Child Protection	150,000
Education	5,000
Monitoring and Evaluation	135,000
Regional Logistics and Supply Support	100,000
Regional IT and Communications	50,000
Regional Emergency Support Unit	65,000
TOTAL	930,000
Funds Received to Date	0
TOTAL FUNDING GAP	930,000

Further information on the UNICEF emergency programmes in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia can be obtained from:

<p>Björn Ljungqvist UNICEF Representative Ethiopia Tel: +251-11-5517-648 Fax: +251-11-5511-628 Email: bljungqvist@unicef.org</p>	<p>Heimo Laakkonen UNICEF Representative Kenya Tel: +254-20-621-093 Fax: +254-20-762-2045 E-mail: hlaakkonen@unicef.org</p>	<p>Christian Balslev-Olesen Representative Somalia Tel: +254-20-623-952 Fax: + 254-20-623-965 E-mail: cbalslev@unicef.org</p>
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<p>Pierrette Vu Thi UNICEF EMOPS Geneva Tel: + 41 22 909 5601 Fax: + 41 22 909 5902 E-mail: pvuthi@unicef.org</p>	<p>Gary Stahl UNICEF PFO New York Tel: + 1-212 326 7009 Fax: + 1-212 326 7165 Email : gstahl@unicef.org</p>
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