

UNICEF Humanitarian Action 2010

UGANDA

SITUATION UPDATE

Increased confidence in north Uganda's peace is illustrated by the commitment to close all camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) by the end 2010. To date, 192 of the 243 camps are closed and at least 1,143,300¹ of these IDPs have returned to their villages of origin or to transit sites en-route to villages of origin. Another 243,845 IDPs still remain in camps, majority of whom are extremely vulnerable without durable solutions within current policy and humanitarian programmes. These areas of return are characterised by weak health services, increased gender based violence, rising child rape and high school drop-out rates (particularly of girls). Similarly, children and women in Karamoja face high mortality rates and poor access to services that is exacerbated by poverty, conflict and underdevelopment. Extreme and unpredictable weather patterns create an additional burden. Delayed impacts of El Niño caused landslides and floods in the east and west of the country resulting in the death of at least 320 persons and displacement of approximately 10,000 persons. Hepatitis E and cholera have also re-surfaced in ill-prepared communities of the north east. It is anticipated that the dry El Niño will bring rain failure in the third quarter and potentially affect the nutritional status of approximately 21,500 under five children in Karamoja. Additionally, children and women may face humanitarian risk caused by potential violence as Uganda and its border countries prepare for elections and South Sudan prepares for its referendum.

KEY RESULTS FOR CHILDREN

Health and Nutrition - High impact child health interventions at district and community levels have reduced cholera case fatality rates in the north (currently at 1.6 per cent, against a target of below 2 per cent). In the north and north-eastern parts of the country, coverage of the DPT3 vaccine reached 70 per cent, and the cure rate for severe acute malnutrition is between 62 and 90 per cent. A total of 1,438 and 1,053 children with severe acute malnutrition were treated and in the north and north-east respectively.

WASH - A total of 286 latrine stances were completed in 42 primary schools in 6 districts in northern Uganda as part of a project started in 2009, this serves an estimated 21,000 children in remote areas of return. With partners UNICEF support the approximately 6,000 persons displaced by landslides in Bududa eastern Uganda UNICEF supported initial water trucking, distribution of jerry cans, chlorine powder for water treatment, etc. In addition, UNICEF supported the construction of the gravity flow scheme, including provision of 10,000 and 2,500 litre tanks to serve as reservoirs.

Education - Access to safe EDC centres was provided to 37,756 additional children (boys 17,331, girls 20,425). These centres provide activities of play, pre-reading and writing, growth monitoring, supplementary feeding. Cluster coordination tasks are still in the process of being handed over from Save the Children to the Forum for Education NGOs in Uganda. This transition of cluster responsibility follows the strategy adopted by the Humanitarian Country Team for all sectors.

Child Protection - At this stage of the programme 1,150 children who were vulnerable to violence, exploitation and abuse as a result of migration to urban centres were returned and reintegrated to Karamoja. Children from Karamoja living on urban streets in larger towns are increasing thereby making such programmes more important to protection of vulnerable children. A total of 52 children formerly associated with armed groups were returned and integrated to Uganda and of these 23 were under five years of age.

KEY CHALLENGES

The inconsistencies in the cluster transition process and poor buy-in by some line ministries have weakened the coordination of humanitarian actions required to respond effectively to disasters and epidemics in country. Thus, the delivery of emergency assistance to support children and women was often delayed, disrupted or uncoordinated between. Persistent underfunding, along with an anticipated impact of potential political turmoil in the region, increase in natural disaster, ongoing epidemics, and a need to provide tangible peace dividends to returnee communities. Continued underfunding of humanitarian actions in Uganda put the country at high risk of losing the peace-building and recovery gains earned over the past years in the time of foreseen disaster.

¹ UNHCR in Uganda Fact Sheet, 31 May 2010.

INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION

UNICEF works closely with counterparts to ensure transition from Inter-Agency Standing Committee clusters of the past to a new system that will see humanitarian coordination embedded into the sectors that are run by the government. UNICEF's role in the Nutrition, Child Protection, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and Education sectors will now be to enhance coordination, preparedness and response capacities of identified counterparts. UNICEF also supports Disaster Risk Reduction and emergency preparedness and response actions of the Ministry of Disaster Management within the broad parameters established in the Humanitarian County Team.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The HAR for Uganda comprises humanitarian actions outlined in its CAP request, in addition to recovery actions required as part of the transition phase the country is going through. Donor response to the original HAR requirements for humanitarian and recovery actions is extremely disappointing with no funds received against the US\$44,200,000 request for recovery actions, and the humanitarian request of US\$20,400,000 was only 20 per cent funded as of mid-year. Due to this, UNICEF will reduce the recovery and humanitarian requests significantly, while noting the challenges faced in donor response and the deteriorating factors described in the problem statement above.

Funds received against the HAR 2010 (US\$)							
Sector	Original 2010 HAR requirements		Revised HAR requirements		Funds received		Funding gap
	Humanitarian Actions	Recovery Actions	Humanitarian Actions	Recovery Actions	Humanitarian Actions	Recovery Actions	
Health and Nutrition	6,000,000	15,000,000	4,622,887	5,000,000	3,226,577	0	6,396,310
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	4,700,000	12,500,000	2,525,940	4,000,000	903,250	0	5,622,690
Education	7,100,000	12,500,000	1,262,724	4,000,000	0	0	5,262,724
Child Protection	1,500,000	2,000,000	1,431,660	600,000	0	0	2,031,660
HIV/AIDs	1,100,000	2,200,000	1,295,000	700,000	0	0	1,995,000
Emergency Preparedness and Response			1,658,500		0	0	1,658,500
Subtotal	20,400,000	44,200,000	12,796,711	14,300,000	4,129,827	0	22,966,884
Total*	64,600,000		27,096,711		4,129,827		22,966,884

*The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 7%. The actual recovery rate on contributions will be calculated in accordance with UNICEF Executive Board Decision 2006/7 dated 9 June 2006.

EMERGENCY PROGRAMME PRIORITIES: JULY – DECEMBER 2010

By the end of 2010, UNICEF's humanitarian priorities based on the assumption of 100 per cent of funding levels are:

Health

- By the end of year, immunisation for an estimated 125,000 children under one year will be supported with the procurement of vaccines and cold chain equipment.
- Access to quality preventive and curative health care for children will be improved with the extension of access to community-based Integrated Management of Neonatal and Child Illnesses (IMNCI) to 55 villages.
- Access and coverage of Antenatal Care (ANC) and Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) will be increased by five per cent through the support of UNICEF in the provision of life-saving EmOC supplies to newborn health units in six regional hospitals.

Nutrition

- By the end of the year, nutrition programmes for the treatment of children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) will be expanded through the establishment of an additional 26 CBTF centres. The expansion of the network with 187 CBTF and 26 FBTF is expected to rehabilitate approximately 4,500 children affected by SAM in the next six months.

- Improvements in the nutrition status of 55,000 children, and pregnant and lactating women in Northern Red Sea region in addition to three zobas targeted in the initial HAR plan will be met with the expansion of the blanket feeding programme.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Access to sanitary hygiene will be supported with the provision of 2,000 litre water tanks to 200 primary schools in six regions.
- Improving access to safe drinking water will be prioritised in Gash Barka and Debub regions with the drilling of 10 boreholes by the end of 2010.

Education

- By the end of the year, 1,800 displaced boys and girls will gain access to safe water and sanitary facilities meeting Sphere standards with the construction of four temporary schools and the rehabilitation of two classroom structures with WASH facilities.
- Displaced children will benefit from an improved level of support as a result of the training of 200 primary schoolteachers in life skills, HIV/AIDS, psychosocial care and gender-sensitive teaching methods.

Child Protection

- By the end of 2010, 500 child and female-headed households will be supported through the training of 100 teachers and 50 health staff on basic psychosocial care and response to violence and abuse, as well as be provided with access to vocational training for small income-generating activities.

Mine Action

- By the end of the year, knowledge on the prevention of mine injuries will be enhanced for 180,000 students, reached through school-based education programmes.