

UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Swaziland

SUMMARY FOR 2005

Critical Issues for Children and Women

With over 200,000 people infected with HIV out of the 1.1 million population and four successive years of drought, Swaziland is amidst a dire, but silent emergency. The HIV pandemic has orphaned an estimated 69,000 children and the figure is growing by 10,000 per year.

More than one third of women and children cannot access basic needs, including health, education, and psychosocial support. Poor nutrition and HIV infection operate in a downward spiral with poor sanitation and declining access to safe water. Approximately 40% of children are stunted (chronic malnutrition) and the HIV prevalence among pregnant women is estimated at 38%. The proportion of children completing school education is on the decline, and enhanced vulnerabilities of out-of-school children to abuse and exploitation have increased.

Planned Humanitarian Action for 2005

UNICEF coordinates its work with UN agencies, NGO partners and technical line ministries. The emergency programme mobilizes resources to expand humanitarian action targeting the most affected populations, with a special focus on orphans and most vulnerable children. Protection and rights promotion of 50-60,000 children and women severely affected by HIV and AIDS will be strengthened.

Health and Nutrition: UNICEF will procure and distribute essential emergency drugs, train health and nutrition personnel and volunteers to improve caring practises and psychosocial support for HIV/AIDS affected children. Support will also be provided for outreach services.

Water and Environmental Sanitation: UNICEF will rehabilitate or construct water boreholes and latrines in public facilities, rehabilitate existing rain water harvesting systems, and train and mobilize water management teams and committees.

Education: UNICEF will distribute school-in-boxes, and additional recreational and school supplies, provide emergency grants to enable free access to primary education, train and support teachers and life skill volunteers on psychosocial support, counselling, and non formal education.

Protection: UNICEF will expand and strengthen Neighbourhood Care Points (NCP) and distribute relief items to the most affected communities. Training on child protection, child survival, psychosocial support and development will be implemented targeting NCP managers, caregivers, and child protection volunteers.

Summary of UNICEF Financial Needs for 2005	
Sector	US\$
Child Protection	3, 115,000
Education	1, 880,000
Health and Nutrition	750,000
Water and Environmental Sanitation	390,000
Total¹	US\$ 6,135,000

¹ The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 12%. The actual recovery rate on individual contributions will be calculated in accordance with the Executive Board Decision 2003/9 of 5 June 2003.