Sudan

Two million Sudanese children under 5 are acutely malnourished and 550,000 of these children are severely malnourished. Within the African continent, 13 per cent of all children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) are located in the Sudan. 1 Malnutrition and food insecurity are exacerbated by conflict-related displacements, El Niño, epidemics, floods and droughts. The ongoing violence in Darfur, the Kordofans, Blue Nile and Abyei has forced more than 3.2 million people2 to flee their homes. Among these are 1.9 million children, many of whom have been separated from their families and affected by grave violations. As a result of renewed conflict and high levels of food insecurity in South Sudan, an increasing number of refugees are seeking protection in the Sudan, which has stretched already limited host community capacities. The Sudan currently hosts 250,000 South Sudanese refugees, with more than 100,000 new arrivals in 2016 (70 per cent of these are children).3 Displacements often leave children with limited access to basic services, while exposing them to violence, exploitation, sexual violence, malnutrition and diseases.

Humanitarian strategy

In 2017, UNICEF will continue to support children affected by conflict, cyclical floods, drought, epidemics and chronic underdevelopment, particularly in hard-to-reach areas where children’s needs are most acute. UNICEF and partners will continue to deliver an integrated response, including scaling up interventions in conflict-affected areas for internally displaced and refugee populations and working with the Government to strengthen national systems throughout the county. For the first time in the Sudan, the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) will use a multi-year approach covering the period 2017–2019, and will be linked with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018–2021 planning process, which is also under development. Discussions are ongoing with the donor community to identify how best to support this multi-year approach. UNICEF developed a strategy for cash programming in 2016 and plans to begin implementation in 2017. An inter-agency resilience programme will be developed in Kassala state to combat acute malnutrition. UNICEF has also continued to advocate to reach children in Blue Nile, the Nuba Mountains and Jebel Marra, which have been partly inaccessible since 2011. This will involve leveraging UNICEF’s influence with the Government and other partners, including as cluster lead for the child protection sub-cluster and co-lead for nutrition, WASH and education.

Results from 2016

As of 31 October 2016, UNICEF had received US$51.8 million against the US$117 million appeal (44 per cent funded).9 By the end of October 2016, more than 3 million conflict-affected people (60 per cent children) had accessed primary health care services, almost double the 2016 target of 1.8 million people. In addition, all 3,741 unaccompanied and separated children (1,739 girls)10 that were identified were reunited with their families or placed in alternative care arrangements, exceeding the 2016 target of 2,200 children. The year 2016 saw significant progress towards the protection of children in armed conflict, with the United Nations and the Government of the Sudan signing an action plan to prevent the recruitment and use of children on 27 March, and the United Nations and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North (non-state armed group) signing a similar action plan on 23 November. In addition, 173,973 children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM were admitted for treatment. More than 400,000 caregivers received infant and young child feeding counselling. While 44,339 affected people gained access to improved drinking water, this represents only 15 per cent of the target for 2016,11 with the UNICEF WASH interventions only 35 per cent funded. Similarly, only 26 per cent of the 2016 target for school-aged children accessing safe learning spaces was met by the end of October due to funding constraints.
UNICEF is requesting US$110,247,169 to meet the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable children in 2017. As the United Nations Humanitarian Country Team in the Sudan has not yet finalized the 2017 HRP, the programme targets and the funding requirements for UNICEF’s Humanitarian Action for Children appeal for 2017 are in line with the 2016 HRP.

Results are through 31 October 2016 unless noted.

(i) UNICEF targets include targets for technical sectors and the refugee multi-sector. As a result, in some cases, UNICEF targets may be higher than sector targets.

(ii) This is UNICEF’s total target (i.e., 250,000 children under 5 with SAM admitted for treatment).

(iii) For this indicator, the UNICEF target is based on partner targets, including the Ministry of Health target, which represents 95 per cent of the HRP 2016 targeted population. This is higher than the health sector target, which is 85 per cent of the HRP 2016 targeted population.

(iv) Results reported on this indicator under the health sector currently only reflect UNICEF contributions. Full results from all sector participants will be included once published by the World Health Organization, the sector lead.

(v) WASH results report against the provision of new water facilities (water trucking is not reflected) and new latrines. Operation and maintenance of existing water facilities and the rehabilitation of existing latrines are not reflected.

### Funding requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2017 requirements (US$)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>36,776,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>10,877,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>32,217,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>8,712,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>21,663,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>110,247,169</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, ‘Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan 2016’, OCHA. (The 2017 Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan is expected to be finalized in the first half of 2017).

2 Comprised of 1.5 million girls and 1.55 million boys.

3 Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, ‘Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan 2016’, OCHA. (The 2017 Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan is expected to be finalized in the first half of 2017).

4 Children to be reached are as per the 2017 Sudan Humanitarian Needs Overview (53 per cent children of the 4.6 million to be reached).


6 Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, ‘Sudan Humanitarian Snapshot’, 30 September 2016. UNICEF estimates that 80 per cent of these are children.

7 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees South Sudan situation information sharing portal, <data.unhcr.org>, accessed 13 December 2016.

8 This is UNICEF’s total target (i.e., 250,000 children under 5 with SAM admitted for treatment for 2017).

9 Available funds included US$45.1 million received against the current appeal year and US$6.7 million carried forward from the previous year.

10 The number of unaccompanied and separated children increased in 2016 compared with earlier years due to conflict in Jabel Marra, Darfur states, as well as the increase in South Sudanese refugees.

11 WASH results against the provision of new water services (water trucking), operations and maintenance of existing water facilities and the rehabilitation of existing latrines are not reflected.