The violence has led to the killing of thousands of civilians, some deliberately targeted, and the number of casualties due to the use of explosives has risen. Countless homes, schools, hospitals and other essential infrastructure such as water and sanitation systems have been either destroyed or severely damaged. Large-scale displacement is resulting in overcrowded shelters, and host communities' capacity to absorb refugees has been overstretched.

The conflict is making it difficult for people to have access to water, food, health care and education. In August 2012, approximately 2.5 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance, of which 1,150,000 were children under 18 and 262,767 children under 5. The total number of displaced persons (IDPs) was 1.2 million, and the United Nations estimates that the total number of people affected might reach 4 million in early 2013. Given the volatile security situation, humanitarian access is extremely limited, and humanitarian agencies are seeking alternative modalities to reach people in need.

Planned results for 2013

In 2013, UNICEF will continue to respond to the current crisis, guided by the revised Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan (SHARP), taking the lead in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and education sectors as well as the nutrition and child protection working groups. With regard to the health and nutrition of internally displaced children, UNICEF’s priority is to support routine vaccination programmes and supplementary campaigns, meet primary health care needs in collective centres and host communities in eight governorates, and scale up nutrition interventions with preventive measures as well as supplementary and therapeutic feeding services.

UNICEF will also scale up its operations to ensure increased access to education by providing 1 million children with essential learning materials and 100 new prefabricated classrooms for areas with rapid influx of IDPs. In addition, UNICEF will rehabilitate school facilities; provide desks, chairs, and teaching and learning materials to at least 300 schools; and establish child-friendly school clubs providing 150,000 children with remedial education, recreational activities, psychosocial support (PSS) and WASH services. Additionally, approximately 50,000 children under age 6 will have access to PSS in their kindergartens. Some 300,000 displaced and vulnerable Syrian children, adolescents and mothers will receive primary health care, PSS and protection through community-based or mobile Child-Friendly Spaces (CFGs). Lastly, the WASH programme will be scaled up to provide safe drinking water and hygiene supplies to IDPs and vulnerable populations across the country. WASH activities will target the affected population at the municipal level, as well as communities in collective shelters, including schools and households. The priorities will be to facilitate the improvement of

### 2013 programme targets

#### Health

- 536,000 children (including 268,000 IDPs) under 5 provided access to primary health care (13.4 per cent of the total estimated affected and IDP population)
- 1.4 million children reached with supplementary vaccination campaigns (50 per cent of children under 5 in the country)
- 200,000 lactating mothers provided with neonatal health care education (5 per cent of the affected population)
- 5,000 Iraqi refugee children covered with primary health care services, including immunization

#### Nutrition

- 268,000 IDP children reached with micronutrient supplementation
- Targeted intervention for nearly 26,000 children under 5 affected by moderate acute malnutrition (9.7 per cent of 268,000 IDP children) and 6,150 children under 5 affected by severe acute malnutrition (2.3 per cent of 268,000 IDP children), adding up to 32,150 affected by global acute malnutrition*
- 200,000 lactating mothers provided with micronutrient supplementation and education on child feeding (5 per cent of the affected population)
- 5,000 Iraqi refugee children covered with nutrition surveillance services

#### WASH

- 500,000 emergency-affected people provided with access to safe water
- 500,000 provided with access to appropriate sanitation services
- 750,000 provided with access to soap and other hygiene items and/or reached by different messages on improved safe water handling and sanitation and hygiene practices
- 50,000 schoolchildren in emergency-affected zones provided with access to safe water, sanitation services and hygiene practices

#### Child protection and youth

- 300,000 youth and adolescents, including IDPs and refugees (Iraqis and Palestinians), trained on PSS, Psychological First Aid (PFA), first aid and resilience.
- 500,000 children made aware of the risk of mines, unexploded ordnance and explosive remnants of war

#### Education

- 1,000,000 school-aged children receive essential education materials
- 150,000 school-aged children benefit from remedial education and recreational activities in improved learning environment.
- 200,000 children have access to PSS through schools and kindergartens.

*Following assessments, target beneficiaries and budget requirements for nutrition will be adjusted.
WASH facilities, particularly in collective shelters, to maintain good hygiene and health conditions for IDPs, particularly children. This will include increasing water storage capacity for both drinking and domestic use, as well as expanding sanitation facilities, as existing ones are beyond capacity. In parallel, hygiene kits and essential sanitary items such as soap will be distributed at collective shelters, along with hygiene promotion messages. At the municipal level, UNICEF will purchase spare parts for maintaining and repairing severely damaged water supply networks and provide essential water treatment chemical products unavailable inside Syria to mitigate risks of waterborne disease outbreaks.

Results from 2012
UNICEF worked with 40 partners (directly and indirectly) to deliver services for children in all 14 governorates. Through WASH interventions, 6,000 people were given access to clean drinking water and nearly 285,000 children were vaccinated against all antigens in April. In the last couple of months of the year, the nationwide immunization campaign aiming at vaccinating 1.4 million children against measles and polio was carried out. As of end of November, 191,930 children were vaccinated against measles and 235,570 against polio. Some 9,000 IDP children in the worst-affected areas were provided with primary health care through mobile teams, and 30,000 IDP families received food rations. Over 27,000 children benefitted from school clubs with remedial classes, 70 prefabricated classrooms are currently under construction, rehabilitation is ongoing in 100 schools, and 10,000 vulnerable Syrians received community-based mental health support.

One of the biggest challenges to programme implementation was the limited availability of funds. In addition, humanitarian space and access were constrained owing to the deteriorating security situation. And despite the limited number of partners with appropriate technical capacity and potential for implementation, during the last quarter of the year, UNICEF and partners prioritized emergency response programmes such as winter preparation aiming to reach 300,000 children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEALTH</th>
<th>UNICEF 2012 target (through end Dec.)</th>
<th>UNICEF total results (through end Oct. 2012)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children (boys and girls) vaccinated against measles</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
<td>284,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children under 5 years old (boys and girls) fully covered with routine immunization antigens</td>
<td>705,310</td>
<td>115,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children and women equitably accessing essential health services with sustained coverage of preventive and curative interventions</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>8,543</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE | | |
| Emergency-affected population provided with access to drinking and domestic water | 230,000 | 5,985 |
| Emergency-affected population provided with access to soap and other hygiene items | 230,000 | 106,888 |

| CHILD PROTECTION AND YOUTH | | |
| Children with access to psychosocial support services | 187,000 | 32,000 |

| EDUCATION | | |
| School-aged children in affected areas in schools or learning programmes | 52,500 | 23,140 |
| Children with access to psychosocial support in education programmes | 52,500 | 23,140 |

UNICEF funding requirements for 2013
Based on the inter-agency Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan 3 (SHAR3) led by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UNICEF requests US$61,400,000 to meet the needs of children in Syria during the first six months of 2013. Against the funding appeal made in 2012 for SHAR2 (September–December 2012), UNICEF received approximately $10,969,315 (25 per cent) as of 31 October 2012 against the total US$44,090,000 requested.

The ability of IDPs and host communities to cope with the crisis and ongoing violence is reaching a breaking point, and the effect of economic sanctions and prolonged conflict will have a more dramatic impact on the exhausted population in 2013. UNICEF is the provider of last resort for humanitarian response in different areas as the global cluster lead in education, WASH and nutrition, and as the sub-cluster lead in child protection. The number of agencies working in the humanitarian response in Syria is limited, and UNICEF is committed to playing a key role in serving children and their families. But without additional funding, UNICEF will be unable to support the national response to the country’s continuing humanitarian crisis.

2 The estimated figures were established in SHARP2 (September–December 2012).

3 This is an interim report as of 3 December, based on reports from seven governorates (out of 14) that were able to report to the Ministry of Health. The total number of children vaccinated against measles in 2012 will be compiled after the measles campaign, which ran from 26 November to 6 December 2012.

4 Ibid.

5 The number of beneficiaries relates to children provided with primary health care through mobile medical teams.

6 This number covers the population who benefitted from the distribution of 17,800 hygiene kits.

7 This indicator is still valid for the ongoing remedial classes at the schools clubs.

8 Psychosocial support is given as part of the school club activities by teacher and/or school counselors.

9 SHARP3 was under revision and discussion at time of publication of this report.