Situation Overview

Cyclical drought, exacerbated by one of the strongest El Niño weather events ever recorded, is putting the lives of millions of children at risk of malnutrition, water shortages and disease in seven priority countries in Southern Africa. Over half a million children are currently suffering from severe acute malnutrition in seven priority countries in southern Africa, while 3.2 million children have reduced access to safe drinking water as a direct result of the El Niño drought. Many health facilities and schools are in critical need of improved water supply and sanitation facilities to enable the continuity of services. The number of children to be directly affected by either malaria, cholera, diarrhoea, measles and/or pneumonia is expected to more than double that of average annual cases due to the El Niño drought. Children are facing increased protection risks as families and communities move in search of work, food, water and grazing land for animals. Children are also finding it difficult to stay in school, due to hunger and/or lack of water. Southern Africa is the global epicenter of the AIDS pandemic, and the drought is making life even more precarious for children affected by HIV.

Governments and partners have been responding since 2015, but the scale of the crisis has outstripped the coping capacities of communities and the resources of government, putting decades of development gains at risk. Urgent investment is required as the crisis is likely to continue well into 2017, and may be further compounded by the coming La Niña weather event which would result in further erratic climate conditions.

UNICEF Response in Southern Africa

In 2016, UNICEF has reached:

- 52,000 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) treatment
- 206,000 children with life-saving health curative interventions
- 608,000 people with clean water and WASH support
- 74,000 children with protection and psychosocial services
- 100,000 people with HIV education and services

UNICEF Requirements for Southern Africa

To meet the humanitarian needs of women and children affected by El Niño in Southern Africa, UNICEF requires a total of US$ 96.7 million, of which only 18% has been received to date. The current gap is US$79.4 million, as follows:

- US $15.7 million for lifesaving treatment for malnourished children, including treatment for SAM
- US $22.3 million for the WASH response
- US$18.8 million for health interventions
- US $4 million for child protection services
- US $0.6 million for provision of HIV education and access to services
- US $18 million for education, social protection, and other sectoral services.

UNICEF 2016 El Niño Southern Africa Funding Requirements

82% Funding Gap
Country Overviews

ANGOLA

Situation Overview
Due to the compounded impact of four seasons of lower than average rainfall and the El Niño event, 1.4 million people are affected by drought in the country, of which 756,000 are children. Undernutrition rates have doubled in the country over the past year, and the current severe acute malnutrition (SAM) caseload stands at 98,538. Potable water access is concerning as people are using unclean water for consumption and cooking and are forced to share untreated stagnant water with animals, giving rise to the risk of diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases. More than 80 per cent of existing boreholes in the most affected provinces are non-functional and absent of safe drinking water. The drought is exacerbating migratory movements of whole communities, including cross-border movements, which raises child protection concerns, from sexual abuse of girls exposed while walking long distances to fetch water to child labour and reduced school attendance. The food security situation is expected to worsen from now until the end of the year due to meagre yields and possible floods due to La Niña. Health risks have also spiked including an outbreak of Yellow Fever which has laboratory confirmed cases in 16 provinces and has led to the death of 369 people between December 2015 and July 2016.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF Angola has targeted 1.4 million people affected by drought and 6.7 million at risk of Yellow Fever in 2016 for humanitarian interventions in the sectors of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Nutrition, Health, Child Protection and Education.
- So far this year, UNICEF’s support has reached:
  - 8,800 children under 5 with SAM treatment
  - 6,000 people with safe water (7.5-15L per person per day)
  - 1.7 million people with nutritional information and education
  - 5.3 million people with Yellow Fever information and preventative messages

Funding Needs
- UNICEF Angola still requires US$17.1 million to reach:
  - 29,000 children with treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM)
  - 15,000 children with psychosocial support and protection services
  - 350,000 children with measles vaccination
  - 2.7 million people with Yellow Fever vaccination
  - 4,400 children with access to education services

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Angola see the links below:

LESOTHO

Situation Overview
In Lesotho, one quarter of the population is affected by widespread drought, which is aggravating the high levels of vulnerabilities in a country in which 34 per cent of children are orphans, 57 per cent of people live below the poverty line, and almost one in four adults live with HIV/AIDS. Approximately, 679,000 people will be food insecure by the end of 2016, while chronic malnutrition prevalence stands at 33.2 per cent. The drought has led to a decline in access to safe water with 16.6 per cent of communities using unprotected water sources.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF Lesotho has targeted over 534,000 people (including 310,000 children) through humanitarian interventions aimed at mitigating the impacts of the drought in the sectors of WASH, Nutrition, Health, HIV/AIDS, Child Protection and Education throughout 2016.
- So far this year, UNICEF’s support has reached:
  - 108,000 people with safe water (7.5-15L per person per day)
  - 100,000 people with HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment information and services
  - 50,000 children with psychosocial support activities
  - 19,000 children with vitamin A supplementation
  - 32,000 caregivers with infant and young child feeding counselling for appropriate feeding

Funding Needs
- UNICEF Lesotho still requires US$6.5 million to reach:
  - 38,000 children with vitamin A supplementation
- 2,000 children with SAM treatment  
- 100,000 children with essential health services  
- 192,000 people with access to safe water (7.5-15L per person per day)  
- 150,000 children with psychosocial support and protection services  
- 300,000 children and women with HIV prevention, care and treatment services 
- 170,000 children with access to education opportunities

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Lesotho see the links below:


MADAGASCAR

Situation Overview
Madagascar currently faces a humanitarian crisis due to an extended drought exacerbated by El Niño. Nutrition screening data\(^1\) indicates that 39,000 children 6-59 months in the eight most affected districts in the South are facing acute malnutrition. The total number of children with SAM in the country stands at 145,600, which includes 7,000 SAM children in the most affected districts in the south. Water consumption has declined to a reported 1 litre/day in certain drought affected districts. Rapid assessments conducted in April 2016, report an increase of diarrhoea in children under 5 of up to 25 per cent and dropout rates as high as 40 per cent in primary schools.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF continues to support government efforts to expand essential social services to affected populations through community-based interventions in the sectors of Nutrition, Health, Child Protection, Education and WASH.

- So far this year, UNICEF’s support has reached:  
  - 8,000 children with SAM treatment  
  - 42,200 caregivers with Infant and Young Child Feeding counselling  
  - 139,000 people with safe water (7.5-15L per person per day)  
  - 13,000 children under 5 with treatment for diarrhoea with zinc and ORS  
  - 8,000 children under 5 with treatment for pneumonia

Funding Needs\(^2\)
- UNICEF Madagascar still requires US$16 million to reach:  
  - 525,000 people with safe water  
  - 2,400 children with SAM treatment  
  - 120,000 caregivers with Infant and Young Child Feeding counselling  
  - 62,000 children with treatment for diarrhoea  
  - 54,000 children with treatment for pneumonia  
  - 8,000 vulnerable families with social protection cash transfers  
  - 1,400 children with psychosocial support and protection services

MALAWI

Situation Overview
Malawi is experiencing its worst food security crisis in over a decade with 6.5 million people, including 3.5 million children, currently affected and in need of food assistance in 24 districts. This represents 39 per cent of the country population and the needs vary across the affected districts. The lean season spans from July 2016 to March 2017, when the humanitarian situation is expected to peak among the most vulnerable children and women. Cases of SAM have increased by 100 per cent from December 2015 to January 2016. With more than 42.4 per cent of all children in Malawi already stunted, there are concerns over increasing malnutrition rates and a higher likelihood of water-borne diseases, such as cholera, to which two-thirds of Malawi’s districts are prone. A cholera outbreak, which began in December 2015, continues to be a challenge with over 1,680 cases and 46 deaths registered to date. The drought has affected 42 per cent of primary schools in Malawi, forcing over 137,000 boys and girls to drop out of school, while 13 per cent of boreholes and 21 per cent of water taps in schools are not functioning.

\(^1\) UNICEF/National Nutrition Office/Ministry of Health Acute Malnutrition Screening in eight drought affected districts in southern Madagascar, February 2016. 
\(^2\) UNICEF 2016 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for Madagascar is currently being finalized and the provisional funding requirement is US$ 18.5 million.
UNICEF Response
In 2016, UNICEF Malawi is targeting 882,000 people (including 453,500 children) for humanitarian interventions in Health, WASH, Nutrition, Education and Child Protection, which are using integrated approaches to address cross-cutting themes, including HIV/AIDS and Communication for Development (C4D).

- So far this year, UNICEF’s support has reached:
  - 29,000 children under 5 with SAM treatment
  - 50,000 people with safe water (7.5-15L per person per day)
  - 375,000 children 6-59 months with micronutrient supplementation
  - 300,000 vulnerable women and children with protection messages to expand knowledge on protection services and service points

Funding Needs
- UNICEF Malawi still requires US$8.3 million to reach:
  - 78,000 people with access to sanitation/temporary latrines
  - 280,000 children with measles vaccination
  - 170,000 children with life saving health interventions
  - 80,000 children with micronutrient supplementation
  - 83,000 adolescents with HIV-related information and access to services

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Malawi see the links below:

MOZAMBIQUE

Situation Overview
As a result of El Niño, Mozambique is facing its worst drought in 30 years, especially in the southern provinces and parts of the central region. Currently, 1.5 million people in seven provinces (Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Tete, Manica, Sofala and Zambezia) are facing a food insecurity and nutritional crisis, with 72,000 children expected to be acutely malnourished by the end of 2016. GAM rates for children under 5 are 15 per cent in Sofala and Tete provinces. Projected acute food insecurity figures for October-March 2017, provide an alarming picture with increasing concerns that up to 2 million people may be affected. A third of the affected population (around 500,000 people) do not have access to safe drinking water. The use of unsafe drinking water has increased the incidence of communicable disease, with almost 300,000 reported cases and 98 deaths from diarrhoea between January and April 2016.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF’s humanitarian response continues to focus on two critical areas of intervention, WASH and Nutrition, as part of a broader Government and humanitarian country team (HCT) intervention strategy. In WASH, UNICEF is focusing on ensuring continuous access to safe drinking water through water trucking to the most affected communities, rehabilitation and upgrading of existing community water points, distribution of chlorine water treatment products and the drilling of new boreholes. In Nutrition, UNICEF’s interventions are focusing on the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition in children, supporting Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and supporting nutrition coordination and information management.

- So far this year, UNICEF’s support has reached:
  - 3,700 children under 5 years with SAM treatment
  - 13,000 people with access to safe water (7.5-15L per person per day)
  - 20,000 people with hygiene promotional activities

Funding Needs
- UNICEF Mozambique still requires US$6.1 million to reach:
  - 26,000 children with SAM treatment
  - 150,000 pregnant and lactating women with infant and young child feeding services
  - 100,000 people with access to safe water
  - 100,000 people with hygiene promotional activities

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Mozambique see the link below:

3 With the release of the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) in July 2016, the needs of women and children increased significantly. As such, UNICEF’s 2016 HAC appeal for Malawi is being revised from US$ 13.1 million to a provisional US$ 22.7 million to include additional requirements which will be reflected in the forthcoming revised HAC appeal.
SWAZILAND

Situation Overview
Swaziland is currently experiencing its worst drought in decades, which has significantly decreased crop production, killed livestock and devastated livelihoods throughout the country. Over 320,000 people are affected (including 189,000 children) by the drought, with more than 200,000 people food insecure. Children are at serious risk of malnutrition, with 1,410 children already suffering by severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Preliminary results of the 2016 rapid assessment (which covered 31 per cent of clinics in the country), indicate an increase in the number of diarrhoea cases reported. The drought is further exacerbating levels of vulnerability among the population which are compounded by chronic food and nutrition insecurity, high rates of HIV/AIDS (26 per cent prevalence rate), poverty and protection concerns, including gender based violence (GBV). Approximately 200,000 people are unable to access potable water, and the number of non-functional water points has increased by 30 per cent over the last year. The drought has impacted 78 per cent of the country’s primary and secondary schools, with more than 332,000 students affected by a lack of, or erratic availability of water. Some schools are reported to have suspended classes due to water shortages, especially in the urban areas of the country.

UNICEF Response
UNICEF Swaziland is focusing on providing access to life saving WASH, health and nutrition services for women and children, as well as critical education and children protection services in the two most drought affected areas of the country. UNICEF Swaziland plans to reach 320,000 people (including 189,000 children) through interventions to mitigate the impacts of the drought throughout 2016.

- So far this year, UNICEF’s support has reached:
  o 25,000 people with access to safe water (7.5-15L per person per day).
  o 24,000 children under 5 with measles and routine EPI immunization.
  o 56,000 children with Vitamin A Supplementation

Funding Needs
- UNICEF Swaziland still requires US$2.6 million to reach:
  o 39,000 people with safe water
  o 317,000 people with hygiene and sanitation education and information
  o 30,000 children with curative health interventions
  o 900 children with treatment for SAM
  o 13,000 with HIV related services
  o 2,400 children with protection services

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Swaziland see the links below:
- UNICEF Swaziland’s Situation Reports: http://www.unicef.org/appeals/swaziland_sitreps.html

ZIMBABWE

Situation Overview
The El Niño phenomenon’s negative impact continues to affect vulnerable women and children in Zimbabwe, with the situation expected to worsen in the coming months. While the effects of the drought are already apparent, the peak phase of this emergency is expected to start in October 2016 and last through to March 2017. Based on the preliminary results of the Vulnerability Assessment results in July 2016, over 4 million people (including 42 per cent of rural households) will be food insecure during the peak of the hunger season running from January-March 2017. Zimbabwe currently has a severe acute malnutrition caseload of 37,848. Citing hunger and the need to help out with house or farm work, some 6,000 children in Matabeleland North province have dropped out of school. Women and girls face a heightened risk of protection concerns and loss of education due to their socioeconomic roles, including supporting vulnerable family members and migrating to cities in search of work.

UNICEF Response
In 2016, UNICEF Zimbabwe is targeting 1.3 million people (including 625,000 children) with critical humanitarian interventions in the sectors of WASH, Nutrition, Health, HIV/AIDS, Child Protection and Education.

- So far this year, UNICEF’s support has reached:
  o 90,000 people with access to safe water (7.5-15L per person per day)
  o 2,800 children with SAM treatment
21,000 children with child protection services
57,000 children 6-59 months with Vitamin A Supplementation

**Funding Needs**

- UNICEF Zimbabwe still requires US$21.1 million to reach:
  - 230,000 people with access to safe water
  - 25,000 children with life-saving health interventions
  - 347,000 children with measles vaccination
  - 12,000 children with SAM treatment
  - 180,000 children with Vitamin A Supplementation
  - 10,000 children with protection services
  - 73,000 vulnerable families with social protection cash transfers
  - 150,000 children with access to education services and opportunities
  - 13,000 children and women with HIV treatment and services

For more information on UNICEF’s humanitarian response in Zimbabwe see the links below:


**Regional Coordination & Support to El Niño Affected Countries**

Given the scale of the El Niño crisis, UNICEF’s Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) has deployed a sub-regional coordinator for Southern Africa and continues to provide regional coordination and technical guidance and support to UNICEF Country Offices responding to the impacts of El Niño/La Niña across the region. In addition, UNICEF is supporting the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Secretariat with specialised expertise in WASH and Nutrition. **UNICEF ESARO requires US$1 million** to support the humanitarian response to women and children affected by El Niño in 2016.

**UNICEF Southern Africa El Niño Funding Requirements**

Together with partners, UNICEF can bring life-saving support to the urgent needs of children and women and can ensure that the significant development progress that has been achieved for children over the last few decades is not reversed by the effects of El Niño. The table below outlines the funding needs by country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Southern Africa El Niño 2016 Humanitarian Response Requirements (US$)</th>
<th>Funds available* (US$)</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
<th>US$</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>21,500,000</td>
<td>4,385,744</td>
<td>17,114,256</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesotho</td>
<td>9,134,028</td>
<td>2,646,419</td>
<td>6,487,609</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar**</td>
<td>18,485,485</td>
<td>2,432,563</td>
<td>16,052,922</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi***</td>
<td>13,035,000</td>
<td>4,721,892</td>
<td>8,313,108</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>8,800,000</td>
<td>2,693,542</td>
<td>6,106,458</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Swaziland</td>
<td>2,980,800</td>
<td>342,400</td>
<td>2,638,400</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>21,812,946</td>
<td>660,401</td>
<td>21,152,545</td>
<td>97%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Coordination &amp; Support</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>96,748,259</td>
<td>17,882,961</td>
<td>78,865,298</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Funds available include funds received in 2016 and 2015 carryforward year-end programmable.

**HAC appeal for Madagascar is currently being finalized and the provisional funding requirement is US$ 18.5 million.**

***HAC appeal for Malawi is being revised from US$ 13.1 million to a provisional US$ 22.7 million to include additional requirements.

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