Current Situation in numbers

+387,000 people registered in RUD (unique registry of humanitarian needs)
3,781 people still in 17 official camps managed by the GoE (of which 1,935 are children and adolescents)
+4,803 people still in 75 informal refuges. (According to latest DTM conducted by IOM)
+35,000 houses and public buildings declared “unsafe”
3,226 cases of ZIKV reported by MoH, including 328 pregnant women. (Manabi being the most affected province with 2,556 people infected)

Highlights

On 16 April 2016 a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck the Pacific Northwest area of Ecuador, its epicenter situated close to Muisne and Pedernales. Considered the largest disaster in the region since Haiti in 2010, the earthquake directly affected 720,000 people, of whom 350,000 were in need of urgent assistance. On 5 May 2016, the Government reported 30,223 displaced people in official shelters (6,777) and informal shelters (23,446); 20,849 injured persons, and 663 fatalities.

A year after the earthquake, through a multi-sectorial emergency response UNICEF achieved the following results:

- Provision of safe drinking water (77,000 beneficiaries), sanitation infrastructure (44,000) and hygiene promotion (68,000).
- Establishment of temporary spaces for education and protection (with a capacity for 13,290 children), and provision of educational/recreational materials (just over 34,000 children benefitted).
- Psychosocial support provided to approximately 25,000 children and adolescents and their families, as well as family follow-up activities, family regrouping and individual care for children without a family.
- Strengthening of health and nutrition services through the provision of medical supplies (250,000 children under 5 years of age and 26,800 pregnant women and breast feeders with access to micronutrients and dosages of vitamin A).
- 30,400 people (including 1,130 pregnant women) benefitted from the Zika strategy (prevention kits), and 10,704 students have been involved in Zika prevention education programs.
Funding and Resource mobilization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>8,200,000.0</td>
<td>4,319,167.0</td>
<td>3,880,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>3,850,000.0</td>
<td>1,682,682.8</td>
<td>2,167,317.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>1,000,000.0</td>
<td>1,439,003.8</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Nutrition</td>
<td>2,000,000.0</td>
<td>1,014,405</td>
<td>985,595.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross sectoral and Cluster Coordination</td>
<td>250,000.0</td>
<td>2,639,406.01</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,300,000.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,094,665</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,205,335.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Humanitarian strategy

UNICEF Ecuador is currently supporting the recovery phase, through local institutional capacity building and sector coordination. While in the WASH sector, provision of safe water and sanitation continues in official and informal shelters when requested, UNICEF keeps conducting hygiene promotion campaigns, solid waste activities and vector control activities. As for education, at the onset of the emergency the priority was the quick set-up of temporary education and protection spaces for children. A year after the earthquake, UNICEF is applying its methodology for tracing out-of-school children, adopted by the Government, to assure inclusion of all children in schools in the affected areas. Whereas UNICEF initially focused on psychosocial assistance to children, their families and first line responders, in 2017 UNICEF Ecuador is giving priority to supporting families with protective environments and strengthening institutional and community capacity on violence prevention and response. Overall, the response and recovery focuses mainly on rural areas which have received less humanitarian assistance. Meanwhile, new transition strategies are also being identified in each sector to support the phases of rehabilitation, reconstruction, resilience and disaster risk reduction.

As part of the emergency response, UNICEF worked closely with the Government and its humanitarian partners to save the lives of children and women. Throughout the emergency, UNICEF Ecuador supported a better response and results and enabled these results to be more sustainable. UNICEF focused on building resilient systems across the sectors with long-term development results; including strengthening capacities and systems for national and local resilience in the face of future shocks. Hence, in 2017 UNICEF is ensuring that all programmes and interventions contribute to increase local and national capacity.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

![WASH](image)

UNICEF response in Manabí and Esmeraldas provinces focused on provision of water, sanitation and basic hygiene support including hygiene promotion to the severely affected population, (notably displaced people living in shelters), with the objective of preventing water and hygiene related illnesses such as severe diarrhoea and the Zika virus among children and vulnerable groups. UNICEF led the WASH Cluster, maintaining the structure for WASH coordination at the national and local levels in the affected zones. In Ecuador, UNICEF started its WASH activities as a consequence of the emergency caused by the earthquake of April 16.

---

1 including the setting-up of two emergency sub-offices, temporary warehouses and contracting over 20 emergency support staff.
"I cannot live without water. It is good to have water at school all day long and don't wait for it to arrive".

Emilia Vilela is an 11 year old girl who lives in Coaque. Her school, Alfredo Dueñas Velasquez, suffered damages due to the earthquake but UNICEF set up temporary education and protection spaces so that children could quickly restart school. Her school was also benefitted by UNICEF WASH intervention through the rehabilitation of sanitation and handwashing facilities.

Main achievements

+77,000 affected people with access to safe water.
+44,000 affected people with access to basic sanitation facilities.
+68,000 affected people with access to hygiene support/vector control.

167 schools, totaling 39,000 children and adolescents of the affected provinces, benefitted from UNICEF’s WASH intervention. These include hygiene promotion and rehabilitation of infrastructures (through a gender-sensitive approach: provision of separate latrines and WASH facilities for boys and girls). During the first months of the emergency, 13,290 students were provided with safe water supply and sanitation facilities in 13 Temporary Education and Protection Spaces (ETEPS) established by UNICEF.

UNICEF provided water through water trucks for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps, provision of drinking water treatment options and chlorination of water systems. A significant part of UNICEF direct implementation consisted in supporting local water authorities with supplies and equipment (pumps, tanks, pipes). In addition, UNICEF supports the National Secretariat of Water (SENAGUA) with technical assistance, especially on safe water supply and sanitation solutions. Meanwhile, at the local level, UNICEF has been supporting and strengthening the responsiveness of local water supply and sewage system public companies (EPMAPAs).

Main challenges

During the first weeks of the emergency in line with government authorities, humanitarian actors concentrated their efforts in urban areas. However there were strong underestimated needs in the rural areas. Therefore UNICEF decided to re-strategize some of its activities and allocate part of its funds towards the rehabilitation of WASH infrastructures, especially in schools, in these remote areas. Carrying out the same activities in remote rural areas entailed logistic challenges (accessibility of roads, time and distance). The lack of local technical capacity in certain locations led UNICEF to extend support activities and technical assistance, to finance supplies and other unplanned activities, and to carry out direct interventions by UNICEF WASH teams.

Looking forward

UNICEF is working on the rehabilitation of water supply and sanitation systems, especially in rural areas. Such long-term solutions, targeting the most vulnerable, include an important capacity-building component and a high level of community mobilization to integrate participation by the community and contribute to sustainability. UNICEF is also working on emergency preparedness activities, including the preparation of contingency plans at the local level and the creation of a contingency stock at the central level. It is also critical that UNICEF’s cooperation with SENAGUA lasts beyond the emergency phase, in the early recovery and risk reduction phases, through training and capacity building activities.
Following the earthquake, about 560 schools were completely damaged or had collapsed. In addition to the impact on facilities and buildings, children and their caregivers in affected areas were in dire need of psychosocial support and the protective environment that educational spaces can provide. UNICEF Education sector in collaboration with the Government and the Education Cluster, considered a priority for emergency response the quick set-up of ETEPS for children aged three to eighteen years, to provide them with a safe and quality learning environment through the provision of educational supplies. UNICEF coordinated the Education Cluster and provided support to all stakeholders for education in emergency.

"I feel like I've improved in math and calligraphy in the levelling classroom".

Wendy Anchundia completes her assignments in the educational level classroom (“Seed Program”) at the Alfredo Dueñas Velasquez School in Coaque. This program was developed in collaboration between the Ministry of Education, UNICEF and its humanitarian partners. Wendy lives with her parents and 5 brothers. She says she has improved her skills through the program.

Main achievements

+ **13,290** children and adolescents had access to safe temporary educational, recreational and protective spaces: during the first 3 months, children and adolescents benefitted from psychosocial support, stress relieving activities and key life-saving messages within the 13 ETEPs set up by UNICEF in the earthquake affected areas.
+ **34,000** affected children were provided with essential educational and recreational materials (**775** School-in-a-Box kits and ECD kits).
+ **2,400** vulnerable children and adolescents between the ages of 8 and 15 have benefited from the levelling program that ran for more than 10 months.

UNICEF’s role has been instrumental in monitoring children’s rights to education in emergency and supporting the MoE by generating timely alerts. Joint efforts with WASH sector: water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities implemented in 167 schools of the earthquake affected areas.

Main challenges

In order to make possible a safe return to normalcy for the affected children, an important issue to address was the adaptation of the curriculum to an emergency situation, and the training of teachers in its implementation. During the first three months of the emergency, UNICEF Ecuador reached and accompanied 762 teachers in the most affected municipalities: Jama, Pedernales and Muisne. In the meantime, it was also critical for UNICEF to implement strategic support for educational inclusion and monitoring of the rights to education in an emergency situation. The ‘Toolbox for educational inclusion’ was adapted to the emergency situation and an information system for humanitarian response was used for tracking out-of-school children in the affected area. 1,570 children and adolescents were identified and inclusion processes initiated. The five main reasons for these children being excluded from school are lack of education opportunities, lack of transportation; lack of motivation, lack of documentation and child labour.
Looking forward

The recovery and reconstruction processes are long, although there have been many achievements, numerous challenges remain to be tackled. Among them are: provision of support to strengthen the education system’s preparedness and response mechanisms to face potential emergencies; the continuance of activities pertaining WASH in Schools, mainly aimed at improving school’s sanitation facilities; and the economic situation, which is dire within rural areas, highlights the importance of supporting schools with supplies. Educational material will be distributed to more than 4,000 children and adolescents in rural schools throughout the earthquake’s most affected areas.

Child Protection

From the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, UNICEF Ecuador has played a key role coordinating the Child protection earthquake response, ensuring that key child protection actors were involved and responded in a coordinated manner. During the first days, UNICEF’s approach consisted in providing technical and financial assistance to Child protection stakeholders and implementing partners to ensure that systems were in place in order to prevent family separation; promptly identify and reunify unaccompanied and separated children; and provide psychosocial support to children and families and essential government staff affected by the earthquake. UNICEF has advocated and contributed for the protection of children and adolescents against violence, abuse and exploitation in the provinces of Manabí and Esmeraldas.

"With the Return to Happiness, many children were no longer afraid and moved on. They made me smile once again”.

Liber Pazmiño is 15 and one of the teen volunteers of the ‘Return to Happiness’ program. Due to the earthquake, Liber’s house collapsed and his grandfather had to build a temporary wooden shelter. Through this program, Liber provided psychosocial support to the children within his community. The methodology included playful activities, hygiene promotion, reading stories to younger children, puppet shows among other activities.

Main achievements

UNICEF focused its Child Protection strategy on 3 main areas:

Psychosocial support:

+25,000 children, adolescents and their families, as well as first line responders, benefited from psychosocial activities (including the "Return to Happiness" program). 70 MIES professionals and key child protection organizations participated in the training, and received material to implement the "Return to Happiness" methodology with children affected by the earthquake.
Also, 795 adolescents and young volunteers were identified and trained to implement the methodology with children in their communities.

UNICEF supported the establishment of 68 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS), located in official IDP camps and spontaneous sites, reaching over 7,464 children and adolescents.

UNICEF and its partners provided psychological first aid to 5,915 individuals, 960 girls, 2824 women, 900 boys, and 1,231 men. This includes both communities affected as well as first line responders.

65 youth and adolescents have conducted digital risk mapping in the affected areas, developing their skills to prevent, detect risks and vulnerabilities in their schools and communities, and proposing mitigation actions to duty bearers. The participants produced a total of 316 reports related to WASH, education, safety and living conditions issues (see www.mapeaconmigoecuador.com).

More than 5,000 children and adolescents have participated in recreational, artistic and cultural activities in the communities affected by the earthquake in Jama, Pedernales, Atacames and Esmeraldas.

**Prevention of family separation/ family support:**

2,861 families in earthquake affected areas received support. UNICEF and its partners developed a support model aimed to prevent family separation, violence and abuse against children.

2,258 people (940 children and adolescents) have been reached through brigades for identification and registration.

**Prevention of Violence:**

4,500 families have been accompanied to provide adequate care and protection of their children and have been reached with information about access to rights and violence prevention.

4,000 children and adolescents have raised their awareness about prevention of violence and sexual abuse, and 30 psychologists were trained to detect sexual abuse in shelters and address cases; using an innovative and age appropriate methodology.

100 Ministry of economic and social inclusion (MIES), MoE, MoH professionals, Military and Police staff, UN agencies and national and international organizations intervening in the emergency response have participated in the training on minimum standards for child protection in humanitarian action, facilitated with the support of the Emergency Protection working group.

**Main challenges**

A response to such a disaster requires at least two years of commitment from humanitarian actors to accompany the affected population until it is able to recover or return to normalcy. The processes that begin with the community in terms of behavioral changes and capacity building to protect children against all types of violence require medium- and long-term support. It should also be noticed that the situation of children and adolescents in the earthquake affected areas was already characterized by complex problems, particularly regarding different types of violence. The earthquake exacerbated vulnerabilities and pre-existing situations of violence against children and adolescents. In addition, three main challenges somehow hampered UNICEF’s response: the under-capacity of specialized services able to respond to the needs of children and adolescents victims of violence; the lack of economic and human resources to meet the needs of child protection; and the need to clarify roles and responsibilities within the national protection system since the introduction of the new Presidential Decree (Social Protection services were transferred to the Ministry of Justice and Risk Management Secretariat: http://bit.ly/2owYWHQ).
Looking forward

UNICEF continues to provide technical support to the government and implementing partners to enhance their capacities, and develop tools and guidance for emergency response in child protection. Also, coordination mechanisms among key actors in the child protection sector must be strengthened; UNICEF will help local child protection authorities and existing community structures to strengthen their capacities and knowledge of principles and best practices about child protection in emergencies. Moreover, children and adolescents affected by the earthquake will be supported so that they have access to spaces and activities that promote their psychosocial well-being; and a systematization of post-emergency good practices and lessons learned must be conducted.

Health and Nutrition

Ecuador April’s earthquake created a massive disruption of health services in Manabí and Esmeraldas provinces, which threatened to worsen the already high malnutrition rates and food insecurity among the most affected populations. As a consequence, a serious concern was raised that it could have a critical impact on the nutritional status of children under - five years of age and of pregnant and lactating women. Additionally, there was a maximum health alert with great concern about health and water, hygiene and sanitation in the affected areas that were already considered hotspots for the spread of zika, dengue, chikungunya. UNICEF response focused its strategy on three main actions:

- Restore and provide support to local health facilities for the management of an increase in cases of acute malnutrition; ensure adequate protection; promotion and support of appropriate infant and young child feeding in emergencies (IYCF) through the dissemination of information; counselling of mothers and provision of safe IYCF locations and promotion of lifesaving practices (e.g., breastfeeding, health-seeking behavior, safe motherhood, hands washing, hygiene and sanitation). In addition, monitoring of unsolicited donations that were needed.
- Provision of life-saving supplies such as high-dose vitamin A supplements, Micronutrients, Ready to use therapeutic foods, Oral rehydration salts (ORS) in combination with Zinc, to diminish the severity and shorten the duration of diarrheal episodes for all children 6-59 months old, in collaboration with health sector workers, and provisional health and nutrition temporary facilities (tents).
- Provision to the most affected population (especially to pregnant women) of key supplies and information for the prevention of epidemics, such as water borne diseases.

"I did not know much about Zika, but after the visit of the brigades, now I know that it can be prevented by the use of repellent. Keep the tanks sealed and also wash them".

Within her community Jessica Ponce (22) and her two daughters have been beneficiaries of the vector control initiative in the rural areas of Manabí. UNICEF brigades and their humanitarian partners visited pregnant women with messages about vector control and the care they should have during their pregnancy by using the distributed supplies. Beneficiaries were provided with mosquito nets, repellent, and awareness information.
Main achievements

**250,000** children under 5 and **26,800** pregnant and lactating women with access to Micronutrients and Vitamin A doses to prevent anemia and other diseases.

**220** health professionals were trained in AIEPI protocols along with the distribution of more than **30,000** zinc and ORS treatment to address acute diarrhea of children under 5.

**15,900** doses of ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF) along with its guidelines have been distributed and can potentially benefit upwards of **1,000** children who suffer from acute malnutrition.

**1,875** children under 5 and **942** pregnant and lactating women received Infant and Young Child Feeding, growth development support and monitoring in Baby and Mother Friendly Spaces.

**28,000** children and adolescents have participated in Health and Nutrition promotion activities.

**Violence Zika prevention:**

UNICEF and its partners launched an education and communication program for Zika prevention and vector control in alliance with MoH and MoE. **321** teachers and **10,704** students are involved in Zika prevention education programs. **30,400** people (including **1,130** pregnant women) benefitted from the Zika strategy (prevention kits) supported by a C4D community strategy.

Main challenges

In addition to the earthquake, in 2016 Ecuador had to face another serious emergency: the Zika virus. The latter particularly worsened the situation of children affected by the earthquake in Manabí and Esmeraldas provinces. To tackle this issue, an integrated project has been implemented for the prevention and control of the zika virus that focused on sectors or groups of greater vulnerability, such as children and pregnant women, with actions directed to families and the community. The strategy included the implementation of an educational programme for vector control in schools, home visits that include the delivery of kits for the prevention of zika for pregnant women and neighbouring families, and the strengthening of alliances with institutions, communities and grass roots organizations to promote community-based vector control and personal care for pregnant women. This strategy was launched along with a communication campaign in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and PAHO/WHO (“So that your baby can be born healthy, avoid getting bitten by the mosquito”) that has reached more than 1 million persons through television and public radio and social networks.

Looking forward

The institutionalization of the strategies that have been implemented by UNICEF in the earthquake affected areas is critical. Regulatory, legislative and institutional frameworks for disaster risk reduction should be developed. UNICEF also plays a role in informing and motivating communities to take on a culture of disaster risk reduction and resilience. Health and Nutrition activities are not considered part of the emergency plan anymore, neither are the Zika prevention activities. However it has been transferred to the regular program.

Current Situation Overview & Challenges

A year after the earthquake there has been a considerable level of recovery for the majority of the people affected by the event, although there are still families that have not been able to return to a normal life situation. Although the number of these families has reduced considerably, these people lack of sufficient resources to return to a socio-economic condition similar to what prevailed before the emergency. This is affecting not only their health and social development but also their morale. Therefore they need to continue to have access to basic services and their rights have to be guaranteed.
The main challenge for children continues to be the lack of resources and protection mechanisms: UNICEF will advocate for the basic services implemented during the emergency response to continue, because in many of these areas the services were insufficient prior to the earthquake. Since the existing routes and systems of prevention and attention to victims still face challenges, Child Protection continues to be one of the ongoing priorities.

UNICEF along with its partners is closely following the initiative to close all official shelters. Premature closure of these shelters could result in an increase of spontaneous shelters or the use of homes that are not suitable for housing, placing people (particularly children) at risk and increase their vulnerability. A proposal to support the closure of official shelters whilst mitigating any adverse consequences has been shared with the government’s reconstruction committee.

More details can also be found at:

UNICEF Ecuador Crisis: [www.unicef.org/ecuador](http://www.unicef.org/ecuador)

UNICEF Ecuador Crisis Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unicef](http://www.facebook.com/unicef)

UNICEF Ecuador Crisis Social Media: Facebook; Twitter; YouTube


Who to contact for further information:

- **Grant Leaity**
  Representative
  UNICEF Ecuador
  gleaity@unicef.org

- **Herbert Schembri**
  Emergency Specialist
  UNICEF Ecuador
  hschembri@unicef.org

- **Douglas Reimer**
  Emergency Advisor
  Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office
  dreimer@unicef.org
## SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLUSTER Response</th>
<th>UNICEF Response</th>
<th>Change since last report ▲▼</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>Cumulative Results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children and adolescents affected by the earthquake with access to essential educational materials. *</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>41,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children and adolescents affected by the earthquake with access to safe temporary educational, recreational and protective spaces. *</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>14,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children and adolescents who benefit from psychosocial support, stress relieving activities and key life-saving messages.</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>15,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water, Sanitation &amp; Hygiene</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of affected people with access to safe water.</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>241,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of affected people with access to basic sanitation facilities.</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>59,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of affected people with access to hygiene support.</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>146,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people receive access to immediate vector control and individual protection through prevention tools to stop the spread of mosquito borne diseases (Zika, dengue and chikungunya). *</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children under 5 years receive support for adequate protection, promotion and support of appropriate infant and young child feeding in emergencies (IYCF). *</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of pregnant and lactating women have access to micronutrients. *</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of pregnant and lactating women have access to psychosocial support and are reached with relevant information about nutrition. *</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children under 5 years have received Vitamin A and micronutrients in powder¹ *</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children under 5 years affected by diarrhoea have access to treatment that includes Oral Rehydration Salts, and Zinc. *</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child Protection</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children and adolescents affected by the earthquake are reached with psychosocial support services in CFS²</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>48,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of affected families supported to provide adequate care and protection and prevent family separation.*</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of affected people in priority areas are reached by community groups to prevent and address violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect.</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Some of the indicators shown in the table were not fully met; given the change in the strategy for the emergency response which was adapted to changing needs of the emergency, some of these do not necessarily respond to UNICEF’s actions, hence some of these indicators appear as finished.

² Dosis of Vitamin A distributed.

³ CFS were established only in areas where there was no TLC or access to education, mostly in rural areas.

⁴ Finalized activity.