Highlights

- Rains have continued irregularly and below average. The drought and saline intrusion impact on people will last for the rest of the year.

- In Ninh Thuan, the number of children (6-59 months) detected and treated for Severe Acute Malnutrition has increased to 617 cases. 5,020 pregnant and lactating women have received Multiple Micronutrient supplements and 13,300 children (6-23 months) have received multiple micro-nutrient sachets for home food fortification.

UNICEF’s Response with partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNICEF</th>
<th>Sector/Cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UNICEF Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH Indicator</td>
<td>366,000 vulnerable people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition Indicator</td>
<td>5,000 children 7,400 pregnant/ lactating women</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The ongoing El Niño-induced drought and saline intrusion emergency has adversely impacted the lives of people in 52 out of 64 provinces. In the most affected 18 provinces, 2 million people including 520,000 children and 1 million women, are in need of humanitarian assistance. Of the total 2 million people affected, some 500,000 live in the drought-affected South Central and Central Highlands Regions, and 1.5 million live in the Mekong Delta, where water shortages have been exacerbated by the saltwater intrusion.

With recent rainfall, the situation in the Mekong Delta has improved although impact of saline intrusion is yet to change.

Reduced water use for washing, ablution, and hand-washing, have already resulted in increased incidence of diarrhoea, dysentery, hand, foot and mouth disease, and skin diseases.

The poor access to water has also had an impact on children's health, exacerbating the prevalence of malnutrition.

### Estimated Affected Population

( Estimates calculated based on initial figures from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development-MARD report, March 2016; National Institute of Nutrition-NIN/Ministry of Health report, March 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start of humanitarian response:</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Affected Population</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>700,000</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Affected (Under 18)</td>
<td>520,000</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five suffering from malnutrition</td>
<td>27,500</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 6 to 23 months</td>
<td>54,000</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant and lactating women</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

A joint Government, UN and INGO assessment confirmed the urgent needs in the sectors of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health and nutrition, and food security. There are challenges to reach the most vulnerable in hard-to-reach locations and to strengthen coordination mechanisms at provincial/district levels.

The overall sectoral response is led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) which targets through water trucking the 2 million people affected by the lack of regular access to drinking and domestic water sources. With the onset of rain, especially in the Mekong Delta, water trucking has been reduced. However the emergency response to support purification of water, micro-nutrient supplements, and hygiene behaviour promotion continues to remain important and valued by MARD.

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) in provinces under the leadership of the Provincial People’s Committee (PPC) is coordinating the response at provincial level. In severely affected provinces, the Viet Nam
Red Cross (VNRC), Oxfam, Care International, World Vision, and Save the Children are responding and reaching out to the most vulnerable populations, though on a limited scale.

Humanitarian Strategy
Based on the results of the 21-24 March joint multi-sector rapid assessment and subsequent monitoring and reporting by Government and partners, the Viet Nam Emergency Response Plan (ERP) outlines the funding requirements to respond to the needs of 2 million people suffering from acute water shortages, 1.1 million who require food assistance, 500,000 in drought-affected areas at risk of water-related diseases, and 66,500 acutely malnourished under-five children and pregnant and lactating women.

UNICEF support aims to improve coordination among partners responding in affected provinces. Through joint planning, targeting the most vulnerable will be improved and emergency standards maintained. Life-saving interventions in WASH will be supported with funding from CERF funding and the Government of Japan. UNICEF will support about 350,000 to 400,000 vulnerable people with household water treatment and safe storage, and hygiene promotion to prevent communicable diseases. Interventions will also improve WASH facilities in schools which will be used in conjunction with health centres as entry points for hygiene, sanitation and nutrition promotion activities.

Summary Analysis of Programme response

WASH
- UNICEF, as the Lead of WASH and Nutrition Working Group is constantly monitoring the situation through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), National Centre for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (NCERWASS), Viet Nam Health Environment Management Agency (VIHEMA), provincial counterparts and other humanitarian partners.
- Based on the assessment reports from the provinces, national counterparts NCERWASS and VIHEMA demanded the expansion of WASH emergency response to 10 provinces. The list of provinces for emergency WASH programming includes: Dak Lak, Kon Tum and Gia Lai in Central Highlands, Binh Thuan and Ninh Thuan in South Central, and Ben Tre, Ca Mau, Hau Giang, Soc Trang and Tra Vinh in Mekong Delta.
- Several coordination meetings with NCERWASS and VIHEMA were held and as a result, a detailed emergency WASH plan was finalized. In addition, partners’ clear roles and responsibilities were also agreed and reflected in the plan and meeting minutes. This will facilitate smooth implementation of the plan and hold each stakeholder accountable.
- UNICEF has procured PUR sachets and Aquatabs that will support household water purification for at least 366,000 people in 10 target provinces. The first batch of 4 million Aquatab tablets is expected to arrive by mid-July in Viet Nam through Ho Chi Minh City.
- Decentralized procurement of 78,000 twelve-litre buckets, cloths for water filtering, and anti-bacterial soaps has been placed by national counterpart MARD/NCERWASS to enable household water treatment and safe storage among 78,000 households in 10 provinces together with distribution of Aquatabs and PUR sachets.
- MARD/NCERWASS, in collaboration with VIHEMA is organizing two regional WASH and Nutrition Emergency response planning workshops in Da Nang (27-28 June) and in Can Tho (30 June to 1 July) to develop detailed emergency provincial response plans for WASH and Nutrition including the aspects of behavioural change communication and monitoring response.

Nutrition
- In Ninh Thuan, the number of SAM cases (6-59 month) detected and treated increased significantly from 477 last week to 627 this week. 270,000 tablets of Multiple Micro-Nutrient for women were also provided by UNICEF to all 49 health centres. Number of pregnant and lactating women who have received Multiple Micronutrient supplements increased from 3,200 to 5,020 cases. 13,300 children 6-23 month have received multiple micronutrient sachets for home food fortification.
- UNICEF has been working intensively with NIN to prepare for the planning workshop on emergency nutrition interventions. As a result, it was successfully conducted in Kon Tum for three provinces namely Gia Lai, Ninh Thuan and Kon Tum with participants coming from health sector and FAO, Plan International, and Health Bridge.
In the workshop, the National plan and three detailed provincial action plans on nutrition emergency were finalized including selection of locations and numbers of targeted beneficiary for each group: pregnant/lactating women, young children (6-23 month) and estimated SAM cases among children (6-59 month). A preliminary map of WASH, Nutrition, Food Security in each district was agreed among participating agencies. In addition, an intensive training programme on nutrition intervention for GL, KT, NT is going to be conducted from 4 to 7 July.

### Planned beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Provinces and locations</th>
<th>Number of targeted women (PLW)</th>
<th>Children 6-23 month old malnourished</th>
<th>Children under 5 with SAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ninh Thuan</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kon Tum</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gia Lai</td>
<td>21,200</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub proposal 1 (CERF)</td>
<td>27,400</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tra Vinh</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hau Giang</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ca Mau</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub proposal 2 (GOJ)</td>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>82,400</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Child Protection

UNICEF is also exploring ways to support Child Protection by carrying out a sector-specific assessment. A child protection rapid assessment has been conducted in Ninh Thuan province. Led by UNICEF and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MOLISA), in collaboration with Save the Children and Plan International, the assessment looks at emerging or escalated child protection issues due to the magnitude of the drought. The assessment will also identify response gaps and make recommendations for immediate interventions to address child protection concerns, as well as medium and long-term solutions for strengthened child protection in emergencies. The assessment report is expected by mid-June.

### Education

MOET, with Vietec technical support, is finalizing a video clip to guide teachers and education managers in applying the School data collection TOOLS (for pre-; during-; and post-disasters) and the Information SYSTEM for managing DRR and CC of the education sector. This video clip is planned to be sent by MOET to all 63 provinces/cities in the country for operationalization and utilization of the School data collection TOOLS and the Information SYSTEM.

MOET has also planned to conduct further training in 2016-2017 for other provinces/cities using government budget to assist education managers and teachers on how to: (i) manage, report and prepare for disasters and risk reduction and climate change adaptation with resources available at the community level and with participation of the schools; (ii) advise and lobby the local authorities so that the “Disaster Prevention and Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Plan” (DRR/CC Plan) can be integrated into the local SEDP for needed resources in order to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of the plan; and (iii) coordinate and cooperate effectively with international and local potential and experienced Agencies/NGOs in the Education sector for disaster prevention and mitigation for sustainable development.

### Communications for Development (C4D)

UNICEF and WHO are jointly supporting counterparts on the development of messages, IEC (Information, Education and Communication) materials on Health, Nutrition and WASH in emergencies to minimize overlap.

With UNICEF’s support, IEC materials on water treatment in emergencies are under finalization by NCERWASS/ MARD. UNICEF continues to facilitate sharing IEC materials related to emergency among the group of technical staff involving behaviour Change Communication (BCC) from related UN agencies, NGOs, and government counterparts.

During the 3rd and 4th week of June, UNICEF supported provincial counterparts to conduct emergency planning workshops for 10 affected provinces. BCC plan in emergencies will be a component of overall province emergency
response plan. The BCC plan will include two main components: operational BCC action plan to respond immediately to current emergency situations; and long-term BCC plan for emergency preparedness, response and recovery.

Supply and Logistics
UNICEF is providing immediate humanitarian response and, to some extent, recovery phase activities in the sectors of safe water supply, promotion of sanitation and hygiene; micro-nutrient supplements for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition for the most vulnerable women and children.

WASH supplies have been procured via UNICEF’s Supply Division. At the request of CERWASS, UNICEF has procured PUR sachets and Aquatabs to cover the needs of 400,000 vulnerable people for household water treatment. Local procurement of buckets and filter cloths will be done through NCERWASS with supportive quality management measures. The option for UNICEF to procure these supplies is being considered and will be decided in the upcoming weeks. UNICEF will support improvement of WASH facilities in schools in affected communes – including water purifying and storage support under the leadership of NCERWASS.

In Nutrition, local and offshore procurements of Micro-nutrient sachets for both the fortification of home food for children aged 6-23 month and for affected pregnant and lactating women have been finalized. Sales Orders for offshore procurement are being completed in parallel with local procurement for Hebi and Bibomix products. UNICEF will support community and hospital-based treatment of severe acute malnutrition in six target provinces as identified in the CERF and GOJ proposals.

Funding
So far, the ERP (seeking US$48.5 million) is 31% funded thanks to contributions received from CERF, ADB, Government of Japan, ECHO, USAID, DFAT, Government of Lao PDR, Government of Thailand, Government of New Zealand and various other sources. UNICEF has received about US$1.5 million from CERF for the humanitarian response for 6 months and US$2.5 million from the Government of Japan for 9 months for WASH and Nutrition sectors.

Next SitRep: 01 July 2016

Who to contact for further information:

Jesper Moller
Deputy Representative
UNICEF Viet Nam
Tel. +84 (0) 438500202
Mobile: +84 (0) 988737500
E-mail: jmoller@unicef.org

Nguyen Dinh Quang
Nutrition Officer
UNICEF Viet Nam
Tel: +84 (0)4 3850-0244
Mobile: +84 (0) 0915025686
Email: ndquang@unicef.org

Nguyen Thi Thanh Huong
Communication Specialist
UNICEF Viet Nam
Tel: +84 (0) 438500225
Mobile: +84 904154678
Email: ntthuong@unicef.org