Highlights

- The ongoing El Niño-induced drought and saline intrusion emergency has adversely impacted the lives of two million people, including 520,000 children and a million women with shortage of water and food and now in need of humanitarian assistance in 18 most affected provinces. Reduced access to drinking water and water for other domestic uses exacerbated the prevalence of malnutrition and communicable diseases.

- The Government-One UN Joint Emergency Response Plan (ERP) captured the multi-sector outstanding need for US$48.5 Million of which US$40.7 Million was the gap in April 2016.

- UNICEF has received US$1.5 Million from CERF and US$2.5 Million from the Government of Japan to respond to WASH and Nutrition sectors.

- Discussion with the line ministries and departments initiated to work out the modalities of implementation of emergency interventions. On 5th June, emergency Nutrition working group met. Emergency WASH working group meeting is scheduled to be held on 8th June with MARD and UNICEF as co-chairs. It is also planned to have two regional workshops with the participation of relevant partners from ten provinces to develop detailed plan of actions for each province by end June.

UNICEF’s Response with partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UNICEF</th>
<th>Sector/Cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH Indicator</td>
<td>250,000 vulnerable people</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition Indicator</td>
<td>5,000 children 7,400 pregnant/ lactating women</td>
<td>(Not available)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

520,000
# of children affected out of 2,000,000
# of people affected

600,000
# hectares of crop damaged

1,750,000
# people lost incomes

52 (18 most affected)
# provinces affected out of 64

Government-One UN Joint Emergency Response Appeal 2016*
US$ 48.5 million
Funding gap: US$ 37.7 million

UNICEF funds received:
US$ 4 million
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The ongoing El Niño-induced drought and saline intrusion emergency has adversely impacted the lives of people in 52 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 0.5 million 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.

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


<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 malnourished</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

UNICEF, as Lead of WASH and Nutrition Working Group is constantly monitoring the situation through the standing office of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), National Centre for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (NCERWASS), Viet Nam Health Environment Management Agency (VIHEMA), National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), provincial counterparts and other humanitarian agencies to have update on the humanitarian situation.

Emergency Nutrition Working Group meeting was held on 5th June with the joint leadership of National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) and UNICEF. Several agencies including Save the Children, World Vision, UN Food and Agriculture Organization, and the World Bank participated. Based on the feedback received from the working group, the figures for the number of 6 to 23 months children and number of pregnant and lactating women were updated. The information management issues related to nutrition was discussed and it was decided that NIN will establish closer collaboration with the Maternal and Child Health units of Department of Health in each affected provinces in Mekong Delta to receive updated figures on women and children affected in each provinces. UNICEF presented an overview of the emergency Nutrition programming support to six provinces with the CERF and GOJ funding support. NIN presented the special
support of worth US$ 200,000 with micro-nutrient supplements and fortified biscuits that is being supported to ten most affected provinces. Save the Children and World Vision updated their ongoing programming in Gia Lai and World Vision as well.

The emergency WASH working group meeting is scheduled to be held on 8th June with the joint leadership of MARD and UNICEF. The purpose of this meeting is to receive latest update from each of the agencies responding to emergency. UNICEF and other UN agencies will be presenting their approved proposals for emergency WASH response in the meeting. The content of regional workshops scheduled to be held during 27 June to 02 July will also be discussed to receive feedback from the participating agencies.

Based on the results of the 21-24 March 2016 joint multi-sector rapid assessment and subsequent monitoring and reporting by Government and partners, the Viet Nam Emergency Response Plan (ERP) outlines response and funding requirements to support the 2 million people suffering acute water shortages, 1.1 million who require food assistance, 400,000 people in drought-affected areas at risk of water-related diseases, and 66,500 acutely malnourished under-five children and pregnant and lactating women.

Humanitarian Strategy
A joint Government UN and INGO assessment confirmed the urgent needs in the areas of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health and nutrition, and food security. There are issues around reaching the most vulnerable in hard-to-reach locations—enhancing coordination mechanisms at provinces/districts levels.

Within the Government of Viet Nam (GOV) structure, the overall sector response is led by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) – the support primarily being water trucking – with a target to reach all 2 million people who don’t have their usual access to drinking and domestic water sources.

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

UNICEF support aims to improve coordination among entities responding to emergency in affected provinces through joint planning, and improved services targeting to most vulnerable.

Summary Analysis of Programme response
UNICEF support aims to improve coordination among entities responding to emergency in affected provinces through joint planning. The joint planning will help improved targeting to most vulnerable and help the response to maintain standards.

For the life threatening component of the Emergency response, using CERF support in WASH, UNICEF will support about 350,000 to 400,000 vulnerable people with household water treatment and storage, and hygiene promotion to prevent communicable diseases. The support will be also extended to improve WASH facilities in schools. It is planned to make best use of schools and health centres as points for hygiene, sanitation and nutrition promotion.

Nutrition intervention has been initiated first in 45 communes belong to 6 districts of Ninh Thuan province with a screening campaign of all children under 5. For that 150 health workers were trained on implementation of the intervention, and UNICEF nutrition supplies were available in all 45 commune health center, and seven provincial and district hospital of Ninh Thuan. It is estimated that by end of this June, about 32,000 children under 5 in Ninh Thuan will be nutritionally checked up to define nutrition status. From that, emergency nutrition intervention will cover 3000 children 6-23 month malnourished, and 3,000 pregnant women. A field monitoring check list and a simple reporting
template and system (from commune to district, province) were formulated, testing for ready to apply. With that, on monthly basis, information and data on the progress of implementation against the indicators and targets will be tracked.

In Nutrition, as planned, from June to December 2016, UNICEF will support a micro-nutrient supplementation to protect 80,000 pregnant and lactating women, 65,000 children 6-23 month who are suffering from micro-nutrient deficiency. UNICEF will also support to detect and treat about 7000 cases of children with severe acute malnutrition with Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) in 6 provinces in Mekong Delta and Central Highland.

With the support from UNICEF, the nutrition interventions is initiated in 45 communes in 6 districts of Bac Ai district in Ninh Thuan province. This is being carried out with the nutrition supplies made available in 45 communes by engaging 150 health workers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Provinces/ and locations</th>
<th>Number of targeted women (PLW)</th>
<th>Children 6-23 month of ages 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>1000</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>1,200</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub proposal 1 (the CERF)</td>
<td>7,400</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>2000</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>75,000 (50%)</td>
<td>60,000 (80 %)</td>
<td>5,000 (40%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>82,400</strong></td>
<td><strong>65,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNICEF is also exploring ways to extend support to other sectors such as Child Protection by carrying out sector specific assessment. A child protection rapid assessment has being conducted in Ninh Thuan province. Led by UNICEF and 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 problems due to the drought and the magnitude thereof. 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. Assessment report is expected to be available in mid-June 2016.
Communications for Development (C4D)
Preparing and responding successfully to emergencies require that evidence-based communication strategies become an integral part of emergency preparedness and response plans. UNICEF as a sector lead will support promotion life-saving behavioural change communication especially covering the aspects of hygiene, sanitation and nutrition to reduce the risk of outbreaks of diarrhoeal, other water-related diseases, and severe child malnutrition.

In collaboration with Government counterparts, other UN agencies, NGOs and other partners, UNICEF will support planning, implementation, coordination and monitoring of Health, Nutrition and WASH emergency C4D interventions. The participatory and empowerment-based communication approaches are applied in strengthening public health responses, and integrating the perspectives of local populations into control procedures.

On 1st June, UNICEF coordinated the first meeting to share information and jointly plan the behavior change communication interventions in emergencies among related UN agencies, NGOs and other partners. As concluded in the meeting each of the UN agencies will share key messages based on their assessment for the development of package for program communication. Each participating agencies, responding to emergency will nominate their technical staff to be part of a core-group for emergency C4D. The representation from MARD/ NCERWASS, VIHEMA, NIN, Red Cross and NGOs will be persuaded to secure their inputs and ownership. The team will continue to work for recovery and resilience programming and keep C4D package available for upcoming potential disasters.

Supply and Logistics
UNICEF will provide immediate humanitarian response and to a smaller measure recovery phase activities in the areas of safe water supply, promotion of sanitation and hygiene; micro-nutrient supplements for most vulnerable women and children, treatment of severe acute malnutrition.

With the request received from NCERWASS, UNICEF is processing the procurement of tablets and sachets of water disinfectant/flocculent and working out the procurement of local supplies through NCERWASS with supportive quality management measures. UNICEF will support improvement of WASH facilities in schools in affected communes – including water purifying and storage support.

In Nutrition, UNICEF will support community and hospital based therapeutic milks for treatment of severe acute malnutrition along with RUFT. Micro-nutrient sachets for fortification of home food for 6-23 month of age children will be part of the support. Moreover micro-nutrient support for affected pregnant and lactating women will be provided in six target provinces as identified in CERF and GOJ proposals.

Media and External Communication
UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Katy Perry visited Ninh Thuan, one of the most drought hit province, on 24-28 May to witness impact of drought and UNICEF response. Her visit brought worldwide coverage on the situation of vulnerable children, including those affected by the drought. UNICEF also issued a press release that was relayed by national media to announce the financial support from the Government of Japan.

Security
Of the total 2 Million people affected, some 500,000 live in the drought-affected South Central and Central Highlands Regions, where the drought is expected to persist until September 2016 and 1.5 million live in the Mekong Delta, where water shortages have been exacerbated by the saltwater intrusion; with monsoon rains arriving in late May 2016. However there will be lingering impacts of the saltwater intrusion and will require cleaning of contaminated lands and water sources.
Funding
So far $10.8 million has been received/committed against an appeal for USD 48.5 million leaving a total funding gap of US$ 37.7 million. UNICEF has received about US$ 1.5 Million from CERF funds for humanitarian response for 6-months and US$ 2.5 Million from Government of Japan for 9 months for WASH and Nutrition sectors. Other donors such as New Zealand, DFAT, USAID and Swiss are contributing and/or planning to contribute to this emergency response.

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