Highlights

- In the 18 most affected provinces, the ongoing El Niño-induced drought and saline intrusion emergency has adversely impacted the lives of two million people, including 520,000 children and one million women.
- The Government-One UN multi-sectoral Joint Emergency Response Plan (ERP) seeking US$48.5 million remains with a funding gap of US$37.7 million.
- UNICEF has received US$1.5 million from CERF and US$2.5 million from the Government of Japan for the WASH and Nutrition response.
- 280,000 children under five in 49 communes in 6 districts (out of seven) of Ninh Thuan were screened for malnutrition; 114 first SAM cases (6-59 month) were detected and treated.
- On 8 June, the emergency WASH working group met with MARD and UNICEF as co-chairs to provide an overview of the latest situation in affected provinces and update on the ongoing response.

UNICEF’s Response with partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNICEF</th>
<th>Sector/Cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNICEF Target</td>
<td>Cumulative results (#)</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


<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><em>(Not available)</em></td>
<td><em>(Not available)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five suffering from malnutrition</td>
<td>27,500</td>
<td><em>(Not available)</em></td>
<td><em>(Not available)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 6 to 23 months</td>
<td>54,000</td>
<td><em>(Not available)</em></td>
<td><em>(Not available)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant and lactating women</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td><em>(Not available)</em></td>
<td><em>(Not available)</em></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.

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 people 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 CERF funding. UNICEF will support about 350,000 to 400,000 vulnerable people with household water treatment and 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), National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), provincial counterparts and other humanitarian partners.

- On 8 June, the emergency WASH working group met with the joint leadership of MARD and UNICEF. The meeting provided an overview of the response in the affected communes especially on water trucking activities. MARD indicated they invested about US$10 million worth for household water security.

- During the meeting, the Viet Nam Red Cross presented their joint workplan with the provincial departments and extended their interest to support GOV-UNICEF collaborative response. Plan International, World Vision and Church World Service explained their interventions in Kun Tum, Binh Thuan and Kien Giang and have also expressed their interest for partnership. With the changing scenario, partners agreed to expand water purification support to 10 provinces instead of the 5 originally planned with CERF funding. This expansion will reach more households, although the timeframe for support may be reduced at the onset of the monsoon.

- The contribution received from the Government of Japan (GOJ) will support this intervention. The content of two regional workshops at Da Nang and Can Tho was discussed and partners were invited to participate and contribute to the planning process.

**Nutrition**

- On 2 June, the Nutrition cluster conducted a special session on nutrition in emergency. The national nutrition programme distributed US$200,000 worth of supplies to affected provinces (US$100,000 were contributed by Save the Children and World Vision’s for interventions in few communes in Gia Lai and Binh Thuan provinces).

- In Ninh Thuan province, a nutrition screening campaign targeting all children under five is being implemented in 49 communes in 6 districts. A total of 150 health workers were trained for this intervention, including on the use of nutrition supplies provided by UNICEF for the 49 health centres and seven provincial and district hospitals.

- So far, approximately 280,000 children under five were screened, 114 cases of SAM (6-59 month) were detected and treated. 270,000 tablets of Multiple Micro-Nutrient for women were also provided by UNICEF to all 49 health centres, ready to start nutrition interventions for 3,000 pregnant and lactating women.

- It is estimated that by end of June, the nutritional status of about 320,000 children under five will be assessed. Nutrition interventions will cover 3,000 malnourished children (6-23 month) and 3,000 pregnant women. A field monitoring check list and a simple reporting template and system (from commune to district, province) were elaborated, tested and are now ready for application.

- Information and data on the progress of implementation against indicators and targets will be monitored monthly. UNICEF and the NIN are working together with the six provinces where interventions are carried out
in preparation for two nutrition emergency planning workshops, one to be conducted in Kon Tum on 20 June, and another from 30 June to 1 July in collaboration with the WASH sector.

- In addition, as planned, from June to December 2016, UNICEF will support a micro-nutrient supplementation intervention to protect 80,000 pregnant and lactating women, and 65,000 children 6-23 month who are suffering from micro-nutrient deficiency. UNICEF will also support the detection and treatment of about 7,000 cases of SAM with Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) in 6 provinces in the Mekong Delta and Central Highland.

<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><strong>Sub proposal 1 (CERF)</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,400</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,000</strong></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><strong>Sub proposal 2 (GOJ)</strong></td>
<td><strong>55,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>60,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,000</strong></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>

**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.

**Communications for Development (C4D)**

Following up on the 1 June C4D coordination meeting, UNICEF has shared the draft package of key messages and recommended communication channels for emergency situations in Nutrition and WASH. Other UN agencies, NGOs and Government counterparts will update relevant messages from their programmatic emergency areas. UNICEF has also established a group of technical staff involving behaviour Change Communication (BCC) from related UN agencies, NGOs, and government counterparts for sharing IEC (Information, Education and Communication) materials. Each participating agency, 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 engaged 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 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.

Following the request received from NCERWASS, 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, UNICEF will support community and hospital-based therapeutic milk and provide RUTF for treatment of severe acute malnutrition. Micro-nutrient sachets for both the fortification of home food for children aged 6-23 months and for affected pregnant and lactating women will also be provided in six target provinces as identified in the CERF and GOJ proposals.

**Media and External Communication**

UNICEF is discussing with the Embassy of Japan the modalities related to communication and visibility activities related to their support to the response. A Communication Strategy for the Emergency Response to raise public awareness is currently being developed and should be finalized during the week of 13 June.

**Funding**

So far, US$10.8 million have been received/committed against the Joint ERP which is seeking US$48.5 million, leaving a total funding gap of US$37.7 million. 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: 17 June 2016**

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