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) is seeking US$48.5 million. So far 31% of this appeal has been mobilized from various sources.

- Rains have started but are irregular and below average. The drought and saline intrusion impact on people will last for the rest of the year. There is a 75% likelihood of La Niña conditions occurring from September onward, potentially bringing heavy rainfall and floods to the already affected areas.

- UNICEF has procured PUR sachets and Aquatabs that will support household water purification for at least 366,000 people in 10 target districts.

UNICEF’s Response with partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNICEF</th>
<th>Sector/Cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WASH Indicator</td>
<td>UNICEF Target: 366,000 vulnerable people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition Indicator</td>
<td>UNICEF Target: 5,000 children, 7,400 pregnant/ lactating women</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 Plan 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 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>(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. 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), provincial counterparts and other humanitarian partners.
- In-depth bilateral discussions were held with key partners including NCERWASS, VIHEMA and VNRC in relation to the two regional workshops in Da Nang and Can Tho. A pre-planning meeting is scheduled on 20 June to have clarity on the provincial and district work planning preparations.
- UNICEF has procured PUR sachets and Aquatabs that will support household water purification for at least 366,000 people in 10 target districts. The first batch of supply is expected to arrive my mid-July in Viet Nam.
- Amongst other Emergency WASH Working Group partners, Oxfam in Ben Tre, Save the Children in Gia Lai, Care International in Soc Trang, World Vision in Binh Thuan, and Plan International in Kon Tum are responding on a limited scale to support about 3,000 households with the supply of drinking water. World Vision has developed new water sources in selected communes that supports 4,000 people. Other supports from agencies include distribution of hygiene kits and water containers.

Nutrition

- In Ninh Thuan, so far, 477 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. 3,200 pregnant and lactating women have received preventive treatment with multiple micro-nutrient tables. 13,300 children 6-23 month have received multiple micro-nutrient sachets for home food fortification.

- UNICEF and the National Institute of Nutrition are working with the 5 new provinces to prepare for the expansion of emergency nutrition interventions in these provinces. As planned, multiple micro-nutrient supplementation programme will protect about 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.
### 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><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></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.

### Education

The Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) with UNICEF technical and financial support has developed a set of emergency assessment tools which facilitate standardised data collection in education in emergency. The tools include the 3 key reporting forms for schools: i) preparedness planning; ii) for school emergency report; and iii) post emergency reporting. MOET has also developed guidelines and provided training in May for 104 key education managers at school, district and provincial levels of 8 child-friendly provinces on how to use the portal for reporting and management and each school was given an account to access and report on-line.

Recognising the importance of the tools and the potential of leveraging IT technology, the MOET is coordinating with the private company Vietec for the computerisation of the emergency assessment tools and development of a portal which integrates the online data entry and management. MOET and Vietec are to refine technical specifications for operationalisation of the portal and finalise the accompanying guidelines. They will proceed to support trial utilisation by all schools in one province. The experience will be consolidated for sharing with the 8 provinces which have been trained to support the roll-out application for routine reporting and monitoring through the system.

### 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 2016, UNICEF is supporting provincial counterparts to conduct emergency planning workshops for 10 affected provinces. BCC plan in emergencies will be a component of the overall provincial 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.
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 are being procured via UNICEF’s Supply Division. At the request of 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, 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.

**Media and External Communication**

A draft Communication Strategy for the Emergency Response and Recovery has been finalized and is currently being reviewed internally. The strategy will aim at defining the external communication, advocacy and communication for development actions that will be undertaken by the UNICEF Viet Nam office in line with the Global Communication and Public Advocacy Strategy and the Core Commitment for Children in Emergency.

**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: 24 June 2016**

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