



© UNICEF/UN0586369/Quioque

East Asia and Pacific Region

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 4



Reporting Period: 1 October – 31 December 2021

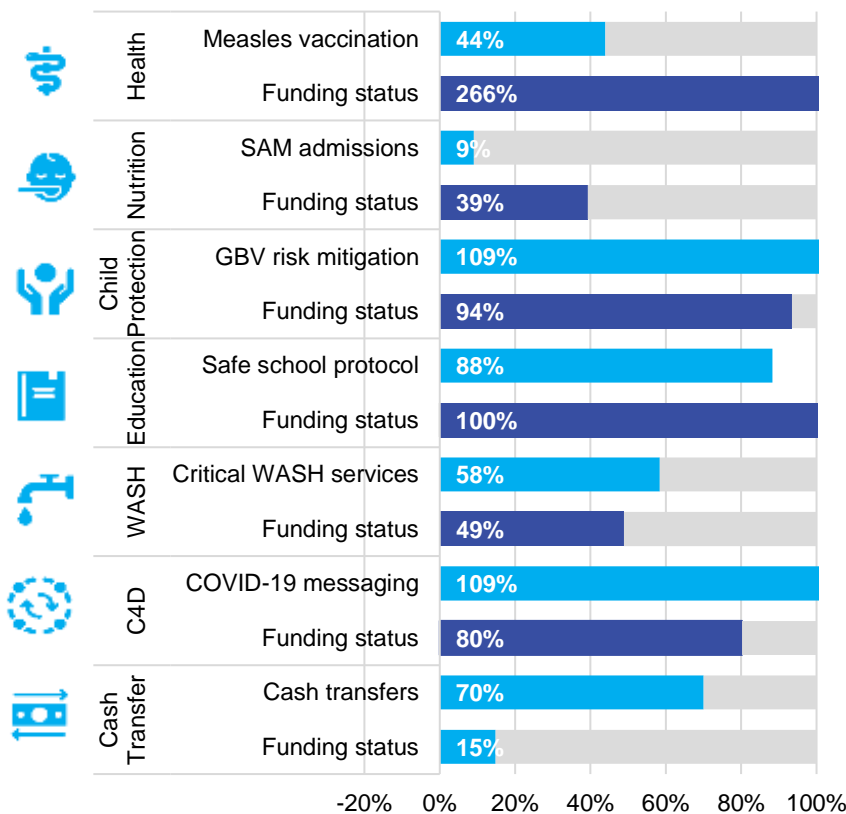
Highlights

- Cases of COVID-19 continue to rise sharply in East Asia and the Pacific. In total, 15,168,274 positive cases and 312,408 deaths have been confirmed in the region, with Indonesia (4.26 million cases), Philippines (2.84 million cases), Malaysia (2.75 million cases) and Thailand (2.22 million cases) being the most affected.
- An additional 601 children aged 6 to 59 months were provided with treatment for severe acute malnutrition and 1.7 million children and adolescents with messages on healthy diets. UNICEF also provided 18.3 million children and adolescents with messages on healthy diets.
- UNICEF supported 188,970 schools to implement safe school protocols and 34 million children with access to formal or non-formal education, including early learning.

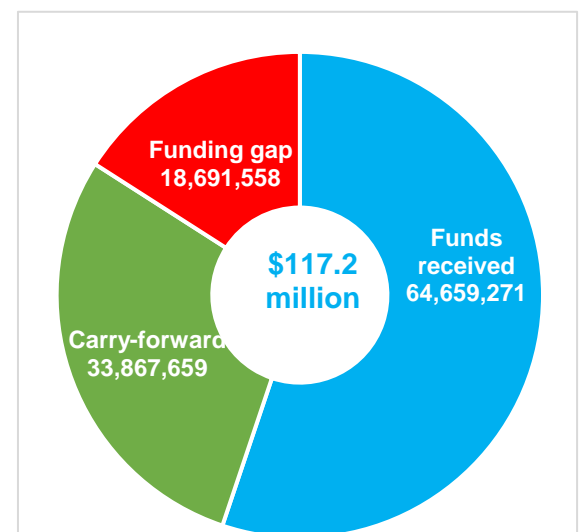
Situation in Numbers

- **15,168,274** confirmed COVID-19 cases and **312,408** deaths
- **1,711,350** additional children with SAM due to COVID-19
- **6.9 million** children are not immunized against measles
- **369 million** people lack access to basic hygiene services
- **144 million** children/adolescents lack access to education

UNICEF's Funding Status



Funding Status Regional 2021 HAC (US\$)



Regional Funding Overview

In 2021, UNICEF appealed for US\$ 117.2 million to meet the humanitarian needs of children, adolescents and women affected by emergencies, including chronic, protracted humanitarian situations as well as UNICEF's response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in the East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region. So far, **a total of US\$ 98.5 million** has been received against the 2021 HAC (including US\$ 33.8 million carried over from 2020 and US\$ 64.7 received in 2021¹ from donors, including the Governments of Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America, European Commission, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, CERF, Global Partnership for Education, Gavi, Solidarity Fund, United Nations Office for South South Cooperation, several private donors and UNICEF committees in Australia, Belgium, France, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Switzerland, Thailand, and the USA. UNICEF acknowledges the generous contribution of donors including private sectors supporting this joint effort to respond and mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and other emergencies in the EAP region. Please refer to Annex B and Annex C for more detailed information on funding per functional area and country.

In addition, UNICEF has received US\$90.7 million for COVID-19 vaccine roll-out in East Asia and Pacific for 2021 in response to the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A)/COVAX appeal. The ACT-A / COVAX HAC appeal which was launched and is managed globally complements the EAP Regional HAC appeal by supporting country readiness for COVID-19 vaccine roll out, together with WHO and Gavi, while supporting the strengthening of health systems. This includes providing commodities needed for safe vaccine administration, such as cold chain equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE), and hand hygiene (soap and hand sanitizer), operational costs for vaccine delivery and associated technical assistance. Crucially, this also includes support for vaccine delivery to humanitarian populations. The seven support areas are in alignment with the categories of National Deployment and Vaccination Plans and include: planning and coordination, prioritization and targeting, service delivery, training, monitoring and evaluation, vaccine cold-chain and logistics, communication and community engagement. Funding and results from the ACT-A / COVAX HAC appeal are reported through a separate global [ACT-A situation report](#).

Regional Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Driven by the Omicron variant, the number of confirmed cases and deaths from COVID-19 in EAP continued to rise during the reporting period. Since the start of the pandemic, 15.2 million positive cases and 312,408 deaths have been confirmed in the region, with Indonesia (4.3 million cases), Philippines (2.8 million cases), Malaysia (2.7 million cases) and Thailand (2.2 million cases) being the most affected². Countries across the region continued to vaccinate their populations against COVID-19. Nevertheless, the pandemic and related control measures including movement restrictions continue to disrupt access to essential health, nutrition, and social services and to drive steep declines in household incomes. The detection of the Omicron variant across the region alerted countries to tighten border control and reimpose restrictions and preventive measures. The prices of food and daily commodities have also increased, with many households struggling with unemployment and loss of income due to the persistent pandemic situation.

A combined approach of supporting vaccine roll-out while continuing to focus on efforts to contain the spread of the virus and respond to the social-economic impacts of the pandemic remains critical to save lives and alleviate suffering, especially for children. According to UNICEF's latest regional report on child nutrition³, overall household incomes and a reduction in the availability and accessibility of nutritious foods led to a shift in many families' lifestyles and dietary habits as well as rises in both overweight and undernutrition are predicted. Access to health and nutrition services were severely disrupted multiple times over successive waves of pandemic-related lockdowns.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, it becomes ever more urgent to ensure delivery of safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. Across the region, 89 million people do not have basic handwashing facilities with soap and water at home⁴. More than half of the schools in the region did not have hand-washing facilities with soap and water available to students, and more than 6 out of 10 health care facilities in East Asia and Pacific lacked functional handwashing facilities with soap and water or hand sanitizer. Therefore, increasing handwashing with soap in all settings while improving WASH access through direct provision of supplies and strengthening systems for services remained an important response strategy.

¹ UNICEF also received some multi-year contributions which go beyond the duration of the HAC. The total amount received including carry-forward from 2020 and new multi-year grants for 2022/2023.

² WHO COVID-19 Dashboard

³ Safeguarding children's access to good diets, services, and practices in East Asia Pacific during the covid-19 pandemic: an Overview of UNICEF Nutrition Response.

⁴ Regional estimates draw on WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme data and exclude China, for which no nationally representative data are available for households and schools.

Rising COVID-19 cases and the emergence of the Omicron variant in late 2021 meant a slow reopening of schools across the region. As of 31 December 2021, schools in the East Asia and Pacific region were fully open in seventeen countries (China, Cook Islands, DPRK, Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tokelau, Tonga and Vanuatu), and partially open in another nine (Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam). Following one of the longest school closures in the world, the Philippines have reopened 256 schools (less than 1% of the total) as a pilot test for a future broader reopening process. However, the school reopening plans were disrupted in areas hit by Super Typhoon Rai (locally known as Odette) in December 2021. Meanwhile, remote learning options, including blended learning, remain in place in most of the countries across the region.

The adverse socio-economic impact of the pandemic continues to drive millions of children into extreme destitution and livelihood insecurity. As the third and strongest wave of COVID-19 in the region continued to spread in the last quarter of 2021, several EAP countries adjusted the duration of some social protection schemes accordingly, and/or erected new programmes to protect livelihoods during this period after previous temporary schemes were ceased.

Across the region, recurring natural disasters, including those induced by climate crises, continued to constrain the socio-economic recovery from the pandemic. Typhoon Rai, which swept through the Philippines on 16 December, further exacerbated the vulnerability of children and their families who have already been struggling to cope with the devastating consequences of COVID-19. In Myanmar, the continuing armed conflict and targeted violence, coupled with the presence of COVID-19, is pushing a growing number of children into a situation of humanitarian needs. Further details on the situation in the Philippines and Myanmar can be found in separate [situation reports](#) dedicated to their respective UNICEF HAC appeals.

Regional Humanitarian Strategy, Partnerships and Coordination

To respond to shocks and stresses amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF focused on enhancing the emergency preparedness and response capabilities of country offices, government counterparts and partners by establishing adequate preparedness measures and providing technical expertise and strengthening systems for child-sensitive and inclusive humanitarian action. UNICEF also strengthened risk-informed programming to address both the immediate and longer-term impacts of crises. This included sustaining the delivery of life-saving interventions in chronic protracted humanitarian situations by providing basic and essential humanitarian supplies in line with global standards; strengthening the timely and effective delivery of essential health, nutrition and WASH services, especially for the most vulnerable children under five years and pregnant and lactating women; and building the capacities of local service providers and caregivers. It also included analysing multi-dimensional risks and threats to children; integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change strategies into development plans; and building inclusive shock-responsive social protection systems.

UNICEF also strengthened the integration of cross-sectoral efforts to address the needs of children with disabilities, adolescents, women and girls in humanitarian settings, focusing on gender-based violence services, accountability to affected populations and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse in emergencies. To ensure greater predictability and accountability in humanitarian settings and learn from previous emergencies, including the COVID-19 response, UNICEF expanded knowledge management efforts and advances humanitarian innovations.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF continued to support governments and communities to control the spread of the virus and minimize morbidity and mortality, including by enhancing preparedness for the possible new waves of COVID-19. In addition, UNICEF addressed the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic in the region by restoring children's mental and physical well-being in the areas of health, nutrition, WASH, child protection, education and social protection, focusing on the most vulnerable. This was done in line with the concept of 'building back better' to ensure clear linkages between the humanitarian response and longer-term development efforts.

Summary of UNICEF's Response Actions in the Region:

The following response actions are in relation to the EAP 2021 HAC appeal which includes UNICEF's response in Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Pacific (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu), Papua New Guinea (PNG), Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam. Results from UNICEF's response to the situation in Myanmar and the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out across the region are reported under other dedicated situation reports.

Nutrition

UNICEF supported governments to provide life-saving nutrition interventions in response to the pandemic and other emergencies. During the reporting period, UNICEF provided an additional 601 children aged 6 to 59 months with treatment for severe acute malnutrition and an additional 1.7 million children and adolescents with messages on healthy diets.

- **Cambodia:** A new implementation partnership between UNICEF and Plan international was initiated to strengthen local health systems and community engagement for nutrition service delivery. This will cover three provinces and targets 72 villages and 21 health centres in six districts.
- **Indonesia:** Between October and December, more than 4,700 health and non-health workers across the country were trained on a 'family-led mid upper arm circumference (MUAC)' measurement approach, supporting home-based MUAC assessment by mothers and caregivers. Additionally, some 15,000 national and subnational government representatives and other stakeholders were trained on various nutrition topics including adolescent nutrition, nutrition in emergency, maternal nutrition and infant and young child feeding through online and off-line platforms.
- **DPRK:** After several months in quarantine at Nampo port, the first batch of nutrition supplies was released from disinfection including micronutrient treatments sufficient to support 160,000 pregnant and lactating women.
- **Mongolia:** During the reporting period, over 68,737 children aged under two received nutrition counseling and 183 children with severe acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment. Vitamin A supplementation reached 358,494 children aged under 5 nationwide.
- **Philippines:** A total of 1074 health and nutrition staff from the 19 target municipalities were trained in Nutrition in Emergency and Information Management. The training helped to strengthen their knowledge and skills in basic concepts of nutrition and malnutrition, nutrition in emergencies and its importance, nutrition cluster management, and nutrition response interventions
- **Timor Leste:** A new partnership agreement was initiated with Plan International to strengthen local health systems and community engagement for nutrition service delivery. This covers 3 north-east provinces (Kratie, Ratanakiri and Stung Trang) and is targeted to benefit 72 villages and 21 health centres in six districts.
- **Vietnam:** Some 1,000 children aged under five, living at home or in the quarantine areas for COVID-19 treatment, were nutritionally screened for detection of acute malnutrition. About 400 cases of acute malnutrition were detected and are being treated using the RUFT products.

Health

UNICEF supported governments and communities to control the spread of the COVID-19 and restore essential health services from the impact of the pandemic and other emergencies, in order to minimize morbidity and mortality. During the reporting period, UNICEF provided access to primary health care for an additional 2.7 million children and women and vaccinated an additional 537,515 children against measles.

- **Cambodia:** A total of 1,089 health promotion and education sessions were conducted through integrated outreach (148 sessions) and through mobile loudspeakers (941 sessions), reaching approximately 185,882 villagers. UNICEF also provided support for personal protective equipment (PPE), including 1,360 boxes of surgical masks, 65 pairs of heavy-duty gloves, 1,865 liters of alcohol and 28 thermo-scans.
- **Laos:** UNICEF has supported MoH to significantly expand the cold chain capacity through the ongoing installation of cold chain equipment (CCE) for 340 storages, with equipment for a further 688 storages currently being delivered. Collectively, the strengthening of the national cold chain storage capacity will enable the COVID-19 and other vaccination programmes to reach the most remote communities in the country.
- **Pacific:** Health workers were trained in Vanuatu (105) and Samoa (189) in COVID-19 vaccination management, while vaccination campaign was boosted with the provision of motorbikes and vehicles in Tuvalu and Cook Islands. In Solomon Islands, 50 health facilities were equipped with solar direct drive refrigerators to strengthen cold chain equipment for vaccines including COVID-19. After the measles outbreak in Serua-Namosi, Fiji, UNICEF supported the health authorities to launch a supplementary measles immunization for children 6 months to 11 years old in the affected areas.
- **Philippines:** During the reporting period, UNICEF provided cold chain equipment: 45 vaccine refrigerators, 45 ice pack freezers, 45 solar-powered refrigerators, 9 power generators, 2,745 temperature monitoring devices, 130 spare parts, and thermal jackets for 60 health facilities.
- **PNG:** Routine immunization catchup campaigns were supported in 13 provinces through microplanning, cold chain and vaccine management and awareness building. Additionally, 30 health workers were trained on elimination of mother to child transmission of HIV.
- **Thailand:** More than 33,971 vulnerable children and families (22,730 children and 11,241 adults) in Southern Border Provinces, Tak and Bangkok were provided with nearly 28,000 soaps, hand sanitizers, 26,000 alcohol sprays, and 56,000 fabric masks. In addition, more than 950 gallons of disinfectant and more than 420 gallons of alcohol spray were provided to affected community surroundings.

WASH

UNICEF supported governments, health workers, schools and communities to promote hygiene and ensure children and their families essential WASH services and supplies, including handwashing with soap and essential personal hygiene practices and menstrual supplies for women and girls. During the reporting period, UNICEF provided an additional 1.58 million people with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services. UNICEF also provided 355,800 people with access to appropriately designed hygiene and sanitation facilities.

- **Cambodia:** During the reporting period, distribution of hygiene items was completed to vulnerable and underserved areas: 3,500 handwashing buckets and taps; 3,500 handwashing stickers; 3,500 handwashing storybooks; 1,000 handwashing posters; 60,000 bars of soap for ID poor households in Mondulakiri. Additionally, hygiene items were procured to support sanitation and hygiene-related IPC at borders and other provinces especially among returning migrant workers from Thailand, including: 250,200 sanitary pads (25,020 packs of 10 pads); 40,000 bars of soap; 7,500 detergent powder (1kg packets); 1,400 gloves; 20,000 aprons; 2,000 face shields; 700 boots; 16 mobile toilets. A total of 10,545 people (including 5,064 females and 52 children) received cleaning and hygiene supplies in 66 quarantine/treatment sites in Battambang.
- **Indonesia:** UNICEF continued to support COVID-19 interventions nationally and in seven provinces. Over 363,000 people gained access to appropriate hygiene and sanitation facilities and 25,000 people were reached with COVID-19 hygiene kits. Towards building long term national capacity for behavior change programming, UNICEF supported the rollout of a [national hygiene behaviour change training guide](#) launched in collaboration with Ministry of Health. On the occasion of Global Handwashing Day (GHD) on 15 October, UNICEF supported MOH to coordinate a [high-level Ministerial webinar](#), bringing together high-level representation from 13 ministries engaged in the Hand Hygiene for All initiative and included [video commitments from 13 Ministers](#).
- **Laos:** UNICEF supported the provision of group handwashing facilities for 580 schools, together with risk communication messages. Soap was provided for use in schools to enable 696,511 children to return safely to school, while construction/rehabilitation of WASH facilities began in 50 Health Care Facilities and 200+ schools to reduce COVID risks during this reporting period.
- **Mongolia:** UNICEF provided critical hygiene and prevention supplies, including hand sanitizers and hygiene packages, to 699 schools, dormitories, and kindergartens in 8 provinces, reaching 145,412 children of which 72,625 were female. Additionally, a total of 1,461 hygiene packages have been delivered to the target schools, dormitories and kindergartens. Moreover, a series of hand hygiene promotion contents were shared through social media platforms on the Global Handwashing Day (GHD, 15 October) and World Toilet Day (WTD, 19 November) jointly with the National Center for Public Health. Contents were dedicated to the importance of handwashing with soap to protect our health from infectious diseases and importance of sanitation facilities.
- **Malaysia:** During the reporting period, hygiene kits were distributed and hygiene awareness education provided to remote rural and underserved urban communities in Sabah in an effort to build resilience and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Some 5,000 children and 15,000 family members were reached. In response to the floods in December 2021, UNICEF donated hand sanitizers and children-sized face masks during a joint rapid needs assessment (RNA) to flood relief centres at three main affected locations.
- **Pacific:** In response to the King Tide in FSM, UNICEF together with partners, distributed 500 WASH and dignity kits and 500 buckets to 11 low-lying islands in Mortlocks Region, reaching 1,061 households (5,080 people of which 913 were children). UNICEF also provided 204 jerry cans with 4,080 liters of safe drinking water to 16 outer island schools. In Solomon Islands, a total of 99 WASH and dignity kits were distributed to mothers, young women and adolescent girls, including sexual violence survivors, to help restore their dignity.
- **PNG:** Altogether, 56 communities in the Rigo district have achieved an 'Open Defecation Free' status following the construction of proper and safe toilets for each household with tippy taps and soap for handwashing, thereby positively impacting more than 12,540 people. The construction of WASH facilities (that include gender-sensitive accessible toilets) is completed in 26 schools, benefiting 7,444 students (including 3,603 girls) as part of COVID-19 response.
- **Thailand:** A total of 22,292 vulnerable children and families (12,647 children and 9,645 adults) in high-risk provinces of Chiang Mai, Samut Sakhon, Samut Prakan, Chonburi, Nakhon Pathum and Kanchanaburi received hygiene supplies to keep children safe and healthy in the affected communities.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

UNICEF worked with implementing partners to strengthen mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for children and adolescents, including dedicated child-friendly helplines for children. UNICEF continued to provide technical leadership and support in child protection sector coordination, ensures continuity of child protection services during COVID-19, and strengthens child protection in emergencies, gender-based violence in emergencies (GBViE), and prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation (PSEA) measures to better protect children and women. During the reporting period, UNICEF supported an additional 3.9 million children and caregivers in accessing mental health and psychosocial support and an additional 3.8 million women, girls and boys in accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions. UNICEF also helped reunify and additional 2113 unaccompanied and separated children (update based on HPM) with their primary caregiver or provided the children with family-based care/alternative care services.

- **Cambodia:** During the reporting period, a total of 1,708 children infected by COVID-19 (829 females) and 1,057 children affected by COVID-19 (528 females) were supported with child protection services. UNICEF also provided emergency family packages to 1,500 vulnerable children, while 52 pregnant women placed in quarantine centers also received these packages. In response to a rapid influx of returning migrants in August 2021, UNICEF organized online trainings for border officials and quarantine centre staff nationwide, reaching 2,173 (338 females) people, covering key aspects of the Code of Conduct for quarantine centers for the safety of women and children.
- **Indonesia:** During the reporting period, trainings of facilitators on psychosocial support was conducted in Central and East Java, resulting in 193 (129 female) skilled facilitators. In Central Java, 25 adolescents (16 girls) have also been trained as peer facilitators, who reached 176 caregivers (123 female). Additionally, 100 primary schools in South Sulawesi and Papua were supported on a mental health and psychosocial support programme to prepare children for a safe return. Through these efforts, 60 teachers (46 female) in Papua and 248 teachers (196 female) in South Sulawesi were trained on MHPSS reaching 1,337 students (796 girls).
- **Laos:** A total 1,744 people received UNICEF-supported Lao Youth Union helpline counselling services for youth, while 143 people (including 8 girls) received Lao Women's Union (LWU) helpline counselling services. Additionally, LWU helpline staff were trained on counseling skills, MHPSS and referral pathways.
- **Philippines:** During the reporting period, UNICEF supported the activation of 55 teleconsultation services (teleCPUs) in ten cities for child abuse, neglect and exploitation cases to ensure continuity of child protection services, thereby providing service to 291 active child abuse cases. Work is ongoing to set up teleCPUs in inaccessible areas in other provinces.
- **PNG:** UNICEF continues to support the 1 Tok Kaunselin Helpline, an ongoing 24-hour service focused on providing mental health and psychosocial support to children, parents and caregivers through case management, referrals, counselling and crisis intervention support. During the reporting period, a total of 1,349 children (740 males and 609 females) received Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS), while 3,731 parents and caregivers (1,779 females and 1,948 males, 4 others) also received MHPSS support. Additionally, 1,038 children (657 females and 342 males, and 39 others) affected by GBV received case management support.
- **Thailand:** UNICEF supported health case management services for a total of 1,447 children (795 girls, 652 boys) and 5,232 adults (2,538 female, 2,694 male), while 131 girls and 112 boys benefitted from child protection case management. Some 521 children (274 girls, 247 boys) received psychological first aid through child-friendly spaces, by engaging them in creative activities such as painting, drawing or singing as well as through home visits. About 468 children and 65 adults received support while in community isolation facilities through the distribution of dignity kits, baby kits, magic bags (toy, book) and UHT milk.
- **Vietnam:** UNICEF continued to monitor and address the child protection needs due to impacts of COVID-19. Some 5,300 children most heavily affected by COVID-19 received direct support from UNICEF in the forms of emergency support and food packages. To prevent and respond to VAC and gender-based violence (GBV) in emergency, UNICEF supported development of a training programme on child protection case management during COVID-19 and GBV and trained 4,500 local child protection personnel throughout the country. Furthermore, 500 children from Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Quang Tri provinces that were affected by storms in October and November received child protection dignity kits containing essential supplies.

Education

UNICEF supported governments to ensure the continuity of learning through safe and inclusive school operations. During the reporting period, UNICEF supported an additional 12,643 schools to implement safe school protocols and an additional 1.8 million children with access to formal or non-formal education, including early learning. UNICEF also supported an additional 4,389 children with disabilities with access to learning.

- **Laos:** UNICEF continued to support continuity of learning through the Khang Panya Lao (Lao Wisdom Warehouse digital learning platform). UNICEF supported setting up the platform based on the Learning Passport. During the reporting period, UNICEF focused on reaching more students, parents and teachers with Khang Panya Lao. By 31 December 2021, Khang Panya Lao had 67,767 registered users (50% female) across all 18 provinces of Laos. Khang Panya Lao teacher trainings were held for 2 provinces in November training 110 teachers and district officers.
- **Mongolia:** The development and dissemination of interactive and audio contents have aided learning continuity and hybrid learning after school and kindergarten reopening. The lessons were distributed via Ministry of Education and Science (MoES online portal www.medle.mn), radio equipment, Mongolian National radio, TV channels and a children's app (Marchaahai application). As a result, 360,000 children accessed the interactive lessons via medle.mn. Also, around 320,000 children of pre-primary (4-5 years old) and primary school ages (6-7 years old) including those in remote areas accessed the audio lessons that used Teaching by Storytelling method. UNICEF also continued to support the continuation of early childhood learning on through a variety of television educational content, including the audio content, 20 short videos on integrated ECD and positive parenting and a weekly TV program scheduled to broadcast 20 times for two months on the Dream TV channel (kids' channel).
- **Malaysia:** UNICEF is strengthening teacher capacity through Massive Online Open Course (MOOC)/Teacher Digital Learning Community via MOE Google Classroom platform with MOE and Arus: <https://sites.google.com/moedl.edu.my/ldp-digital-learning/home> (with accessibility features for learners and

teachers with disabilities) to maintain continuity of student learning on the MOE digital learning platform (DELIMa) - also available to teachers from refugee schools and alternative learning centres. The content has been accessed by 3,999 teachers from 2,168 schools of which 50% are non-urban/rural schools, reaching over 100,000 teachers. Additionally, the Global Citizenship Education (GCED) project-based lessons (Maths, Science, History, Geography) also delivered through DELIMa platform was accessed 19,000 times.

- **PNG:** During the reporting period, school materials including, 10,612 student and teacher incentive packs, 550 school in a carton, 100 ECD kits, 798 temperature guns, 1,189 menstrual hygiene management kits and 4,058 solar radios were distributed across the country. To ensure the education system is more resilient to future disruptions, 667 participants from 311 targeted schools received training on School Disaster Risk Management planning and School Learning Improvement Plans (SLIP).

Social Protection and Cash Transfers

UNICEF has stepped up its technical support on social protection for a timely response to mitigate the economic impact of the new COVID-19 waves on the most vulnerable groups. With UNICEF technical support, several countries have maintained (e.g. Indonesia) and even expanded (e.g. Cambodia) previous social protection emergencies measures. Others, like Thailand, have advocated for design tweaks to account for the additional “burden of care” for families with children. UNICEF continues with policy advocacy efforts (e.g. the Philippines and Vietnam) to ensure any future relief measures will consider the socio-economic impacts faced by families with children. Routine social protection programmes have been also hampered by new lockdowns. During the reporting period, UNICEF provided technical assistance and advocacy to governments, which benefited over additional 943,002 households who received new or additional cash transfers.

- **Laos:** The Mother and Early Childhood Grant, a social protection pilot, was successfully launched in the districts of Attapeu province, benefiting some 1,400 people (about 900 pregnant women and 500 children under 12 months).
- **Indonesia:** UNICEF continues to support government in developing guidelines for increasing coverage and benefits of unconditional cash transfers of a poverty-focused child grant program during COVID-19 in four government social protection programmes that target 42 million households: Family Hope Program (10 million household) (MOSA); Food Assistance Program (20 million household) (MOSA); Unconditional Cash Transfer (8 million household) (Ministry of Village (MOV), Disadvantage Region and Transmigration); and Cash for Work Program (4 million households) (MOV, Disadvantage Region and Transmigration).
- **Mongolia:** A webpage was established to provide easy access to all the reports, survey findings and other materials developed in the past 2 years on UNICEF’s support to the Government on strengthening the SRSP system.
- **Thailand:** UNICEF and its partners continued to advocate with policy makers and the public for the expansion of the Child Support Grant (CSG) to cover all children under six-years, to protect families with young children against the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19. A series of media articles and interviews were produced to raise public attention and support for universal child support grant. Additionally, UNICEF completed a stocktaking exercise to capture the impact of COVID-19 on families with children.

C4D, Community Engagement and AAP

UNICEF continued to provide accurate life-saving information on COVID-19 through communication for development (C4D) and community engagement. UNICEF is also engaged with beneficiaries to ensure accountability to affected populations (AAP) through the seven pillars of [UNICEF’s AAP Framework](#), which include: participation, information and communication, feedback and complaints, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, strengthening local capacity, evidence-based advocacy and decision-making, and coordination and participation. During the reporting period, UNICEF reached total 318.6 million people through messaging on key life-saving behaviours and access to services.

- **Laos:** In early October the Lao PDR Ministry of Education and Sports officially launched Khang Panya Lao, the country’s first national digital teaching and learning platform, built with the assistance of UNICEF, the EU, and the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) to support distant learning for students and instructors to maintain learning continuity during the pandemic and other emergencies. Since late April 2021, the platform has been tested for usage in Lao PDR, with over 62,000 registered users.
- **Indonesia:** Partnerships with 12 civil society and faith-based organizations supported community interventions to increase demand for vaccines and promote preventive behaviors, leading to 135,674 health workers, teachers and community volunteers being trained on IPC skills and more than one million people engaged through face-to-face activities. Additionally, through content promoting safe behaviors and vaccination, UNICEF reached 34.2 million people on UNICEF’s social media, 1.4 million visitors on UNICEF’s COVID-19 website and around 60,000 users on UNICEF’s chatbot information service. Moreover, public information campaigns on three targeted issues – safe return to schools, AEFI and vaccine acceptance – were rolled out on TV/radio and digital platforms, reaching an estimated 65 million people.
- **Pacific:** In Fiji, an estimated 600,000 people were reached through the radio and TV public service announcements. Special focus was given on the introduction of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, the vaccination for pregnant women and 12-15 years old adolescents and booster shots campaign. To enhance youth participation against COVID-19,

UNICEF supported mobilization of youth clubs in communities through training of 600 Assistant Youth Officers. In Tuvalu, technical assistance was provided to Tuvalu's Health Promotion Team in their COVID-19 community engagement for the start of the vaccination of adolescents.

- **Timor-Leste:** During the reporting period, some 20 communication assets, including visuals, audio and video content, to promote uptake of COVID-19 vaccines were produced and disseminated. This benefited a total of 11,277,284 people 5-64 years old, including pregnant women, lactating mothers and elderly with chronic health conditions.
- **Vietnam:** UNICEF continued to support building of public trust in COVID-19 vaccines, promote safe COVID-19 vaccination while maintaining key COVID-19 preventive practices among target groups. During the reporting period, a leaflet about what people need to know for health self-monitoring after COVID-19 vaccination was designed in 9 ethnic languages and shared with local level. UNICEF Facebook fan-page reached 37 million people with messages on COVID-19 prevention and COVID-19 vaccination.

Cross-cutting sectors (Early Childhood Development, Disability, Gender, Adolescents)

UNICEF's response focused on reaching the most vulnerable children and adolescents, including those living in low-income settings, children living with disabilities, migrant children and children of ethnic minorities.

- **Indonesia:** UNICEF has been supporting skills development programmes to empower young people to become active citizens. This entails recruiting young people through an innovation challenge where they identify key issues they are facing in their communities and present solutions, including for COVID-19 pandemic response and other social issues. Selected adolescents are then supported to develop twenty-first century skills to refine their ideas and present prototypes with support from private sector and civil society mentors. The programmes are now in the final phase whereby the 42 finalist teams (521 adolescents, 58 per cent female) are finalising their bootcamp and mentorship sessions to refine their solutions/ideas to the issues they had identified in their communities in the first phase. Additionally, a pool of 150 Master Trainers (62 per cent female) on Adolescent Engagement methodologies has been established. The pool is made up of civil society representatives, government officials and youth networks to support adolescent empowerment.
- **Malaysia:** As of December 2021, [@KitaConnect](#) had engaged 615,000 young people (including 5% with disabilities) via skills-building workshops, youth chats, an online @KitaConnect community and livestreaming platforms.
- **Philippines:** The ICT for Alternative Learning System (ICT4ALS) website has continued to provide online access to ALS learning resources and a wide range of supplementary materials to an additional 8,681 adolescents directly and 131,631 indirectly from October to December 2021, for the new school year.
- **Thailand:** As the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the most Southern provinces has been increased, UNICEF provided hygiene supplies to ECD demonstration centers in 5 provinces including Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat, Songkhla, and Nakorn Srithammarat. The supplies consisted of alcohol gel, antiseptic soaps, and masks. The total numbers of people reached from all 5 centers are 573 children and 39 caretakers.

Internal and External Media

- Global Times, [SE Asia's women more vulnerable to pandemic job loss](#)
- Inter Press Service, [Mental Health: Getting to Healthy, Happy](#)
- Lao News Agency, [UNICEF Provides PPE, IT Equipment to Lao Youth Union to Strengthen Child Protection Services amid COVID-19](#)
- Philippine News Agency, [BARMM inks new pact with UK, UNICEF to boost Covid-19 response](#)
- South China Morning Post, [SPECIAL: How the pandemic brought Asian children to breaking point](#)
- The Guardian, [SPECIAL: Women bore brunt of social and economic impacts of Covid – Red Cross](#)
- UN News, [COVID-19 is biggest threat to child progress in UNICEF's 75-year history](#)
- UNICEF, [Reopening with Resilience](#)
- UNICEF, [Number of hungry in Asia-Pacific swells by more than 50 million since the arrival of COVID-19](#)
- UNICEF, [Even as Omicron variant takes hold, school closures must be a measure of last resort](#)
- UNICEF, [The failure to tackle violence against children during COVID-19 and the recovery](#)
- UNICEF, [From challenge to opportunity, reimagining a stronger future for children in East Asia & the Pacific](#)

Next Situation Report: 29 April 2022

Who to contact for further information: **Debora Comini**
Regional Director
East Asia and Pacific Regional Office
Tel: +66 2 356 9403
Email: dcomini@unicef.org

Marc Rubin
Regional Advisor, Emergency
East Asia and Pacific Regional Office
Tel: +66 2 356 9277
Email: mrubin@unicef.org

Andreas Wuestenberg
Emergency Specialist
East Asia and Pacific Regional Office
Tel: +66 (0) 2 356 9235
Email: awuestenberg@unicef.org

Annex A: Summary of Selected Programme Results

Areas of Response	2021 target	Total UNICEF Results	Increase from last SitRep
Nutrition		2021	
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	357,115	32,220	▲ 601
Number of children and adolescents receiving messages on healthy diets	20,000,000	18,251,863	▲ 1,711,350
Health			
Number of children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities	7,138,000	5,247,326	▲ 2,707,364
Number of children vaccinated against measles	14,493,000	6,375,537	▲ 537,515
WASH			
Number of people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services	6,200,000	3,620,053	▲ 1,584,008
Number of people provided with access to appropriately designed hygiene and sanitation facilities	932,420	912,221	▲ 355,800
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA			
Number of children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support*	6,468,700	4,081,996	▲ 3,934,591
Number of women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions**	7,200,000	7,872,757	▲ 3,798,511
Number of unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services	34,800	12,020	▲ 2,113
Education			
Number of schools implementing safe school protocols	213,914	188,970	▲ 12,643
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	29,171,000	34,057,135	▲ 1,834,515
Number of children with disabilities supported with access to learning	120,000	176,413	▲ 4,389
Social Protection and Cash Transfers			
Number of households benefiting from new or additional social transfers	7,469,000	5,229,774	▲ 943,002
C4D, Community Engagement and AAP			
Number of people reached through messaging on key life-saving behaviors and access to services***	312,000,000	339,705,455	▲ 21,043,564

*The activity includes all direct and indirect MHPSS interventions ranging from individual and group counselling to large scale MHPSS messaging.

** The activity includes all direct and indirect GBVIE-related interventions ranging from individual and group outreach.

***As the same person might be reached through several channels more than once, targets and results have factored the possibility of double counting.

Annex B: Funding Status

Sector	Requirements	Funds Available	Funding Gap	
			\$	%
Nutrition	\$ 8,470,339	\$ 3,324,213	5,146,126	61%
Health	\$ 15,578,670	\$ 41,432,913	-	-
WASH	\$ 19,201,651	\$ 9,386,509	9,815,142	51%
Child Protection	\$ 7,733,163	\$ 7,230,762	502,401	6%
Education	\$ 19,954,452	\$ 20,008,005	-	-
Social Protection	\$ 6,145,703	\$ 911,013	5,234,690	85%
C4D	\$ 8,620,062	\$ 6,913,098	1,706,964	20%
EPR*	\$ 31,514,448	\$ 9,320,417	22,194,031	70%
Total	\$ 117,218,488	\$ 98,526,930	\$ 18,691,558	16%

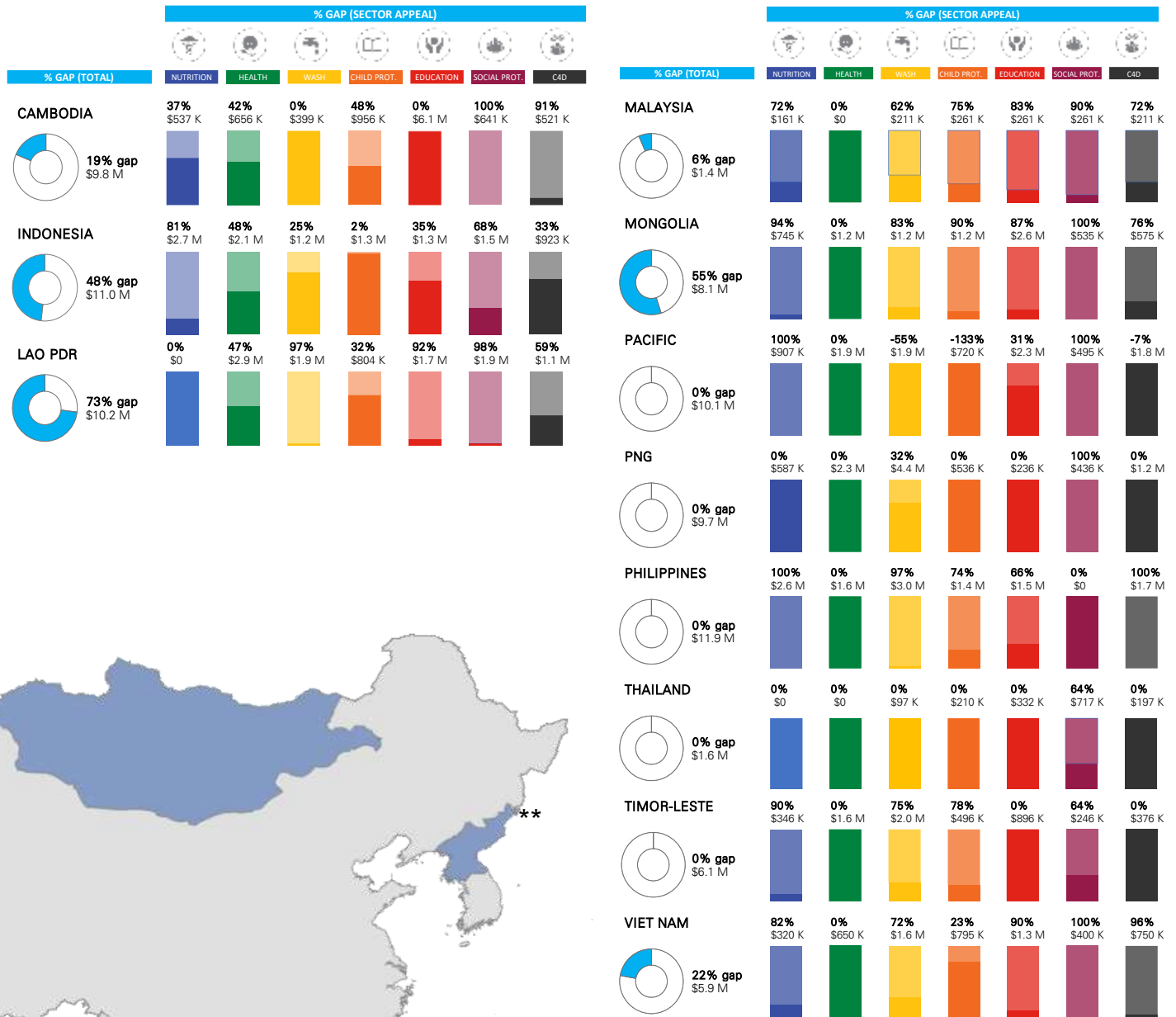
*Includes funding for DPRK

Country	Requirements	Funds Available		Funding Gap	
		Received Current Year*	Carry-Forward	\$	%
Cambodia	\$ 9,842,787	\$ 5,134,964	\$ 2,864,317	\$ 1,843,506	19%
Indonesia	\$ 11,040,664	\$ 2,427,262	\$ 3,300,818	\$ 5,312,584	48%
Lao PDR	\$ 10,180,362	\$ 1,089,003	\$ 1,656,398	\$ 7,434,961	73%
Malaysia	\$ 1,368,800	\$ 1,203,003	\$ 77,174	\$ 88,623	6%
Mongolia	\$ 8,121,750	\$ 2,725,785	\$ 935,368	\$ 4,460,597	55%
Pacific	\$ 10,088,850	\$ 7,555,098	\$ 7,213,814	-	-
PNG	\$ 9,724,900	\$ 13,005,528	\$ 4,964,110	-	-
Philippines	\$ 11,875,650	\$ 15,563,185	\$ 1,493,860	-	-
Thailand	\$ 1,551,677	\$ 1,944,523	\$ 597,328	-	-
Timor-Leste	\$ 6,055,000	\$ 6,478,365	\$ 1,564,472	-	-
Viet Nam	\$ 5,853,600	\$ 3,555,965	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,297,635	22%
Regional EPR**	\$ 31,514,448	\$ 3,976,590	\$ 8,200,000	\$ 19,337,858	61%
Total	\$ 117,218,488	\$ 64,659,271	\$ 33,867,659	\$ 18,691,558	16%

* For some countries, UNICEF has received multi-year funding. In this end of year Sitrep, only the portion of the funds allocated to 2021 are reflected in the table. Therefore, the funding amount shown as received for those countries may be lower than reported in previous SitReps.

** Includes funding for DPRK.

Annex C: Funding Gap by Country and Sector*



* Includes cross-sectoral support, operational costs and recovery costs

** Funding for DPRK is included under Regional Emergency Preparedness and Response (not shown here)