**Highlights**

- The US has announced the lifting of Title 42 by 23 May 2022, after more than 2 years of implementation, which will likely result in a sharp increase of border crossings. Estimates calculate the current pace will triple, with scenarios ranging from 12,000 to 18,000 arrivals per day which will put high pressure in infrastructure and processing capacity at the Mexican border. However, implementation of this decision has been suspended by a Federal Judge in Mississippi.

- Violent events continue to persist in the border areas. The National Migration Delegate at the migratory station in Janos, Chihuahua was murdered on April 15. (Link) and migrants have continued confronting agents from the National Guard in Tapachula, Chiapas, demanding documents to transit towards the US.

- A new caravan of 500 people left Tapachula on April 16, heading to Mexico City to ask for humanitarian visas to transit through the country on their way to the US. (Link).

- In Tijuana, approx. 500 people from Ukraine arrive daily (mainly families with children). Municipal shelters are being opened with a capacity of 900 people. Child protection issues are observed given the lack of official papers of some children.

- A new refugee camp was established during the last week of April by federal and local authorities in Mexico City for Ukrainian citizens arriving by air from Europe. This temporary camp is prepared to receive up to 300 people, but the number of arrivals to the capital city is still uncertain.

**UNICEF’s Response and Funding Status**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Funding Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary healthcare</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health and nutrition...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative care</td>
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<td>Education access</td>
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<td>Safe water access</td>
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*Funding available includes: funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors. See Annex A.*
Funding Overview and Partnerships
UNICEF appeals for USD $27 million under the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal to respond to the needs of the migrant population in Mexico, including those returning under the Migrant Protection Protocol (MPP) and Title 42, internally displaced population from states with high organized crime violence and the continuous flow from Central and South America.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Chiapas
- Main needs of children are child-friendly spaces at the border entries of Cd. Hidalgo and Talismán due to the increase in the migratory flow.
- There is a need for WASH stations, drinking and handwashing facilities in the migration stations of Ciudad Hidalgo and Tapachula.

Baja California
- During April the number of people from Ukraine waiting in Mexico for their asylum process in the USA has increased up to 500 people flying daily from Mexico City and Cancún to Tijuana.
- In coordination with CBP, US EMBASSY, groups of Ukrainian volunteers, municipal and state authorities of Baja California and UN agencies, actions are implemented to attend Ukrainian population. On 22 April 2022, all Ukrainians staying in Tijuana crossed to California to claim asylum.
- US Government implemented the U4U program. This program allows Ukrainians to fly directly from Europe to the US, in order to initiate asylum claims, but there are still Ukrainian citizens flying from Europe to Mexico City that need support and protection as they apply to the U4U initiative.
- Holistic protection of children in Baja California has been strengthened, after specific agreements signed between UNICEF and the Ministries of Health, Education and the Welfare Institute (DIF).

Chihuahua
- The situation in Ciudad Juárez remains stable, albeit a constant increase in the number of people arriving in the city. Shelter capacity remains at 80% occupancy (the latest estimate is that 30% of those in shelters are Mexican nationals).
- On 16 April 2022 INM’s Delegate in Janos, Chihuahua (site of the largest migration detention center in northern Mexico) was murdered alongside two state prosecutors. Circumstances of this situation are not clear to date.

Guerrero and Michoacán
- Guerrero and Michoacán are two key states that are sources of internal displaced persons traveling to the north. An estimated 85% of shelter spaces on the northern border is occupied by Mexican IDPs. Needs for both states include: increased access to education, opportunities to acquire skills for life and work, especially for adolescents and youth; prevention and response to violence, especially GBV and forced recruitment of children and adolescents by armed groups; health services, including nutrition, sexual and reproductive health and mental health.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and Nutrition
- In 2022, within the programme implemented by UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry of Health at Federal, State and jurisdiction levels, and with CADENA and ADRA (international NGOs), 32 health workers (12 in April) have been trained on health and nutrition care of population on the move in Tapachula, Tijuana and Juarez. 1,461 children (313 in April 2022) and 343 pregnant women (72 in April 2022) received primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities, including mobile health units. 180 pregnant women (48 in April 2022) also received preventive iron and folic acid supplementation. 272 children aged 6 to 59 months (102 in April 2022) were screened for wasting and no case of severe wasting was identified. 515 caregivers of young children (123 in April 2022) received counselling on adequate nutrition practices.
- Main progress in April 2022 includes: 1) in Tapachula, the health mobile unit was registered and is fully operational. Good relationship with Ministry of Health continues, and a new agreement will be signed also with
the Mexican Institute of Social Security (IMSS). UNICEF through its partners CADENA and ADRA ensures efficient communication with health centers for referral of complicated cases and emergencies, needing hospitalization. 2) In Tijuana, an MOU was signed with State level Ministry of Health (MOH), with the agreement that the services offered by UNICEF to pregnant women and children on the move, will be complemented by MOH to adults. Collaboration with MOH is excellent and services are offered in the hostels and in communities with high presence of people on the move. 3) In Juarez there is also excellent coordination with MOH, and collaboration in the health and nutrition care to migrant and displaced population has formally started. Additionally, UNICEF was able to provide additional assistance to indigenous people in need in the Sierra Tarahumara, suffering from extreme climate condition and food insecurity. Next months the numbers of women and children reached will be available.

- Concerning challenges, 1) in Tapachula, the high influx of migrant population through the border with Guatemala generated challenges not only to provide health, nutrition, and WASH services, but also conflicts with local authorities due to the waiting time to formalize their documents to continue their journey. 2) In Tijuana, one of the challenges was the delivery of the mobile health unit, which was finally made available in early April and is now fully operational. 3) In Juarez, the mobile health unit has not yet been delivered and services are provided in a clinic inside one of the hostels. This has an implication on the number of children and pregnant women reached. The delivery for the mobile health unit is expected by mid-May 2022.

- In terms of opportunities, in Tapachula, Tijuana and Juarez, there is an opportunity to connect the services offered to the migrant and displaced population with the National Strategy on Primary Health and Nutrition Care during the First 1000 Days, also supported by UNICEF. This would ensure sustainability to the programme.

Child Protection

- 788 children and adolescents on the move in 70 shelters participated in resilience building activities in Chiapas, Chihuahua, Baja California, Mexico City, Sonora, Tabasco and Tamaulipas
- In Chiapas activities through multidisciplinary teams to manage child protection cases of children on the move have assisted 20 children under 5 and 43 children and adolescents this month.
- 45 caregivers and 130 children and adolescents on the move (62 girls and 68 boys) received direct psychosocial support in Baja California, Chihuahua, Chiapas and Tamaulipas.
- 714 children and adolescents benefited from a BID process assisted through UNICEF’s multidisciplinary teams in Baja California, Chiapas, Ciudad de México, Tabasco and Tamaulipas
- In Chihuahua, 91 persons benefited from psychosocial support in 5 shelters.
- Work is underway in Michoacán and Guerrero for violence prevention and response, most especially in areas of gender based violence and forced recruitment of children and adolescent by armed groups.

WASH

- In Chiapas, UNICEF has benefited 14,082 people through drinking stations provided to COMAR (Mexican Refugee Agency). Also 1500 people benefited from handwashing stations and hydrating points at the INM (Migration Institute) in Suchiate, Chiapas. 24 hygiene kits for girls and 24 hygiene kits for boys were donated, in addition to 270 bottles of water to CADENA-ADRA to be delivered in their operations. A potable water system connecting a network of shelters has been installed by UNICEF, benefiting an average of 1,200 people weekly.
- The drinking water points installed in Tapachula were used to fill 20,000 bottles (16 ounces each) used by children and families on the move.
- In Tijuana, family kitchen kits were delivered to the Don Bosco Salesian Shelter to support the integration processes of families, with a vocation for permanence, who leave the shelter. Also, kits were distributed according to planning for 96 children and adolescents. Kits included biosafety equipment – COVID kits, face masks and antibacterial gel.

Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP)

The skills for life and work project in Chiapas has increased its reach to 128 youths since February between the cities of Tapachula (51 participants, three spaces) and Comitán (77 participants, three spaces). So far, 47% of beneficiaries are women and the rest are men, while 42% are foreign migrants and 58% are youths and adolescents from Chiapas who are out of school and work (14–24-year-olds). In terms of age ranges, 40% of beneficiaries are between the ages of 14-16, 40% between de ages of 17 and 20 and the rest are between 21 and 24 years old. So far only 7 youths have dropped out of the program, the majority of them are men. It is estimated that these dropouts are due to beneficiaries starting work to support their families, which is more common for young men. The skills for life and work program in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, is due to restart in mid-May and an agreement has been signed with Fondo Unido Chihuahua, who will fund the program for 12 months.
**Social and Behavioural Change (SBC)**

The Theater for Development intervention titled “Siempre Juntos” (Always Together) was concluded. The intervention was based on a puppet show with a mobile stage in Ciudad Juárez, where children on the move recognized their condition as migrants and right holders, received protection messages and content related to COVID through storytelling. The results showed that approximately 1,600 children watched the play and crafted their own puppet in 13 shelters across the city.

**Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy**

UNICEF participates in several humanitarian coordination mechanisms focusing on the migration situation, such as the Protection Working Group, the Health and Migration Working Group, the GBV and Migration Sub-Working Group, the PSEA Sub-Working Group and the Inter-agency shelters’ Group. Moreover, UNICEF leads the WASH Working Group and the Child Protection in Migration Discussion Group, the later in which key NGO and UN agencies participate and have prepared key advocacy documents to advance the protection of accompanied and unaccompanied children on the move to be presented to the Government. A northern border interagency response strategy for UNICEF, UNHCR and IOM is being developed in preparation to the possible lifting of Title 42 by 23 May 2022.

**Human Interest Stories and External Media**

UNICEF has portrayed migration stories and the organization’s work of integrating migrant children to local schools in the press, as well as the connection of water services to migrant shelters in social media.

**Next SitRep: 31 May 2022**

Who to contact for further information:

- Fernando Carrera Castro
  - Representative
  - UNICEF Mexico
  - Tel: +525552849573
  - Email: fecarrera@unicef.org
- Pressia Arifin-Cabo
  - Deputy Representative
  - UNICEF Mexico
  - Tel: +525552849573
  - Email: parifincabo@unicef.org
- Soraya Bermejo
  - Chief of Communications
  - UNICEF Mexico
  - Tel: +525552849555
  - Email: sbermejo@unicef.org

**Annex A**

**Funding Status**

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<th>Funds available</th>
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