Assam, India
Floods 2022
Situation Report
08 July 2022

Highlights

• 2nd wave of floods in Assam which started on 14 June has improved considerably. As of 7 July, 0.91 million people including 0.23 million children and 0.32 million women from 707 villages of 14/35 districts are affected. One hundred and eighty six lives lost and 37 people have been reported as missing.

• There are 207 flood relief camps functioning with 91,594 people including 27,938 children, 156 pregnant/lactating mothers, and 4 persons with disability. Additionally, 39 relief distribution centers are reaching out to people with essential relief supplies. As per initial estimates, 18,262 houses have been fully damaged, and 121,731 have been partially damaged as on 7 July 2022.

• UNICEF is extending technical support to respective government departments on response and early recovery actions through existing human resources and partners.

• UNICEF will deploy five technical experts in Cachar, Dima Hasao, Lakhimpur, Bajali and Barpeta for three months to support District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs) to facilitate GO-NGO Coordination and social sector recovery starting from 15 July.

• UNICEF’s partner, Oxfam India has so far completed distribution of 1009 hygiene kits and household water filtration units in Cachar and Hojai districts, constructed 14 temporary toilets, conducted hygiene promotion activities reaching 31,315 people. Four boat mounted water treatment units supported by UNICEF are functioning in Cachar.

• UNICEF has entered a partnership with Caritas India to scale up WASH response in Nagaon and Barpeta districts. The support will include water treatment units, hygiene kits, household water filtration kits, disinfection of spot sources and temporary toilets.

• UNICEF’s partner, Deshabandu Club is supporting DDMA of Cachar in relief camp management and Inter Agency Coordination through District Inter Agency Group, Cachar.

• UNICEF’s partner, Save the Children has agreed to support school continuity, mental health and psychosocial support in four districts of Assam (Dima Hasao, Cachar, Hojai and Nalbari).

• UNICEF’s partner, Rural Volunteer Centre has been conducting block level training of frontline workers, supporting Village Health Sanitation Day (VHSND) continuity, support DDMA in operationalizing Child Friendly Spaces in Dhemaji, Lakhimpur and Majuli.

Situation in Numbers

230,491
Children affected by flood
(Source: Daily SitRep, FRIMS, ASDMA dated 07 July 2022)

906,000
People affected by flood in 707 villages of 14 districts
(Source: Daily SitRep, FRIMS, ASDMA dated 07 July 2022)

27,938
Children in 207 relief camps in 11 districts
(Source: Daily SitRep, FRIMS, ASDMA dated 07 July 2022)

305,565
People in 207 relief camps in 11 districts
(Source: Daily SitRep, FRIMS, ASDMA dated 07 July 2022)

186 deaths and 37 missing

18,262 houses fully damaged
121,731 houses partially damaged

Disinfection of drinking water spot sources in Hojai, Assam
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

With overall reduction in rainfall, 2nd wave of floods in Assam that started on 14 June has improved considerably. As of 7 July, 0.91 million people including 0.23 million children and 0.32 million women from 707 villages of 14/35 districts are affected. One hundred and eighty-six lives lost, and 37 people have been reported as missing. As per media reports citing Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) compiled data, 63 child deaths due to floods (drowning) were reported since 14 May, with majority of deaths reported from Cachar and Nagaon districts.

There are 207 flood relief camps functioning with 91,594 people including 27,938 children, 156 pregnant/lactating mothers, and 4 persons with the disability. Additionally, 39 relief distribution centers are reaching out to people with essential relief supplies. As per initial estimates, 18,262 houses have been fully damaged, and 121,731 have been partially damaged as on 7 July 2022.

Government of India has released INR 3,244 million to the state of Assam to supplement the ongoing response and recovery actions as well as preparedness for possible floods in the coming months.

Public Health measures including disinfection, chlorination of water sources, minor repairing of spot sources, piped water supply schemes and restoration of road communication are also ongoing.

Flood damage assessments by the government agencies are ongoing. The compensation process has also been initiated in districts where the situation has improved. Many parts of Cachar, particularly Silchar town are still under water.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF has provided strategic support to District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMA) in the worst affected districts as well as the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) at state level. UNICEF has deployed three teams including consultants and partners to affected districts to provide technical support. UNICEF in coordination with ASDMA is finalizing the plan for deployment of technical experts to each of the five worst affected districts which have already seen two flood events back-to-back. The deployment will focus on reviewing and enhancing preparedness for any impending wave of floods, expediting damages and needs assessment, planning and implementation of social sector recovery, improved GO-NGO Coordination for preparedness, response, and recovery. UNICEF has mobilized National Service Scheme (NSS) and National Cadet Corps (NCC) youth volunteers to support the different priority areas. Currently hundreds of NSS and NCC volunteers are supporting DDMA in relief distribution, relief camp management particularly in Cachar district.

UNICEF has entered a partnership with Deshabadhu Club, a local NGO based in Cachar, to strengthen Inter-Agency Coordination in three districts of Barak valley where state IAG did not have any presence. On 8 July another meeting of Cachar IAG is scheduled to review ongoing response, identify coordination gaps, and adopt remedial measures.

UNICEF sectors are also coordinating with respective departments to support them in preparedness/response actions. The sector teams are advocating and participating in departmental review meetings and have supported in the development of appropriate Government Orders related to the ongoing response. UNICEF’s partner, Rural Volunteer Centre has organized block and district level trainings on camp management, Child Protection in Emergencies (CPIE), operation of Child Friendly Schools (CFS) and alternate schools in Dhemaji and Majuli. Training for Panchayti Raj Institutions (PRIs) have also been conducted on flood response. UNICEF is also supporting ASDMA in a campaign to reach to 50,000 households from flood vulnerable areas with key preparedness messages and information about their

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2. National Emergency Operation Centre, Situation report regarding Flood/Heavy rainfall as on 07 July 2022 at 1800 Hrs.  viewrecentReportsdetai...Document-851 (mea.gov.in)

Circle level training on Relief Camp Management in Dhemaji to prepare for next wave
rights and entitlements in humanitarian situations. The campaign is currently ongoing has reached 6323 households till 1 July 2022.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF’s humanitarian response is guided by the Core Commitments for Children. As UNICEF has a presence in the state and has been supporting the government in risk informed programming and preparedness, child centric response actions have been actively demonstrated by the government. With revised SoPs and trainings, integrated service delivery to flood affected children, pregnant and lactating mother has been made possible through child friendly spaces in relief camps as well as outreach drives by respective departments in affected areas. UNICEF mobilized support of 12 existing partners and deployed to support line department and DDMA led responses on the ground which include services in relief camps, assessments, relief distribution support etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response plan budget (In US$)</th>
<th>Fund available and used (In US$)</th>
<th>Gap in funding</th>
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<tr>
<td>1,013,273</td>
<td>362,527</td>
<td>623,030</td>
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Summary Analysis of Programme Response (by Government and technical assistance by UNICEF)

Health

The State Department of Health is closely monitoring the post flood situation and taking necessary actions in form of advisories, outreach activities and coordination with other departments for public health post flood. Initial estimates suggest 139 health institutions were impacted during the 1st wave of flood. During the second wave 353 Primary Health Centres have been damaged as per preliminary estimates. State, district, and sectoral medical teams have been deployed for relief camps. Stock-taking and review meetings are being done regularly by the Health department at the State and district levels. UNICEF is part of these meetings and is supporting the department in preparedness and response planning and implementation. District Flood Response Plans have been prepared, prepositioning of essential drugs, consumables, commodities, and items reviewed and managed. Daily fever surveillance has started. Regular fogging is happening. Daily review of stocks and situation has been emphasized upon. Boat clinics are operational in many of the affected districts to ensure continuity of health services. Special care is taken to split teams to cover both formal and informal camps. Routine immunization is ongoing in relief camps for eligible children and mothers. Vitamin A supplementation is provided to all children between 2-6 years irrespective of previous vaccination status for increased immunity in children against Measles and Rubella.

Nutrition

Based on a pre-developed module on continuity of essential nutrition services, 300 officials covering all districts were trained on in May 2022. Based on the state level training and directives, Anganwadi workers are supporting distribution of dry ration at household level, hot cooked meals at relief camps. They are supporting in setting up child friendly spaces and breastfeeding corners. Supportive supervision is strengthened by ensuring daily visits by project level Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) and sector level functionaries (ICDS supervisors) to relief camps and affected AWCs. UNICEF has reached out to existing academic and Civil Society partners to provide technical support for flood response for nutrition in respective districts. With the support from Tezpur University, Assam Medical College & Hospital (AMCH) and World Vision India, technical support for continuity of nutrition interventions (including regular screening for malnutrition; micronutrient supplementation) is being provided in 12 districts.

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6 Numbers for internal UNICEF reference only based on initial estimates. Should not be published or quoted
7 Ibid
During the months of June-July, nutrition teams have visited 46 relief camps and shared insights on the continuity of essential nutrition services with district authorities. The initial assessments from 24 districts undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare show that about one-fifth of AWCs in the state are partially damaged. UNICEF is working closely with the Department of Social Welfare to plan for the recovery phase, with focus on essential nutrition interventions.

WASH

Initial estimates of the 1st wave of flood indicated that 329 Piped Water Supply Schemes (PWSS), 1271 spot sources and 4914 Individual Household Latrines (IHHL) have been impacted. The initial estimates for 2nd wave indicate that 2244 Pipe Water Supply Services have been damaged. Public Health Promotion interventions have been initiated by the district administration. UNICEF is providing technical assistance to Samagra Siksha Abhiyan for rapid WASH Assessment of schools in seven districts. Out of the 703 assessed schools, 465 schools were flood-affected, resulting in damaged school toilets, handwashing stations, and water source points being submerged. Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) is ensuring portable drinking water and temporary toilets in camps and other locations in the 2nd wave. Forty-one units of squatting pan have been provided as relief for flood victims in 10 relief camps under Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin.

UNICEF deployed a team to provide support to DDMA’s field coordination with academic institutions, Implementation Support Agencies, and CSOs to ensure hygiene promotions in camps. UNICEF has been providing continuous technical support to Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) in response to planning and monitoring of the WASH situation in relief camps and villages. UNICEF supported state consultants and district coordinators of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) are engaged to ensure day-to-day coordination to provide the necessary support to the districts. UNICEF’s ongoing partnership with Oxfam India for WASH response is ensuring day-to-day coordination with DDMA, and PHED and engaging with volunteers, and district IAGs to provide water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion in the most affected villages and the relief camps of Cachar and Hojai, which are currently the worst affected. UNICEF’s partner, Oxfam India has so far completed distribution of 1009 hygiene kits and household water filtration units in Cachar and Hojai districts, constructed 14 temporary toilets, conducted hygiene promotion activities reaching 31,315 people so far. Four boat mounted water treatment units supported by UNCEF are running in Cachar. District Administration, Cachar is planning to procure more units based on this experience. A training of PHED Engineers and Officials on Operation and Maintenance of Water Treatment Units have also been completed on 8 July 2022. UNICEF is also advocating with ASDMA for the procurement and pre-positioning of water treatment units across the state for emergency use.

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10 Ibid
ongoing partnership of UNICEF with the Rural Volunteer Centre in Dhemaji and Majuli supports 100 volunteers for the disinfection of water sources and hygiene promotion. UNICEF has finalized partnership with Caritas India to scale up WASH response in Nagaon and Barpeta districts which will include water treatment units, hygiene kits and household water filtration kits, disinfection of spot sources and temporary toilets.

**Education**

More than 1600 elementary schools have been damaged, and more than 350 schools doubled as shelters and relief camps during and after floods in the 1st wave of flood. In the second wave, initial estimates indicate that 3577 schools have been damaged (either fully or partially). According to news reports, in Dhubri district, out of 2014 schools more than 1000 schools have been damaged by the ongoing floods. In many places the school are not inundated but the approach roads have been damaged making the schools inaccessible. UNICEF has entered a partnership with Save the Children to support continuity of education and learning recovery through temporary schools in collaboration with Education department in four districts covering 100 fully damaged schools. The partner has initiated the process of consultation and identification of worst affected schools in Dima Hasao, Cachar, Hojai and Nalbari districts. UNICEF has also piloted a self-reporting chatbot to collect data on school damage and school days lost. UNICEF is also coordinating with Samagra Siksha Abhiyan (SmSA) to develop a comprehensive learning recovery plan at state level considering the disruption and learning loss caused by floods in 2022.

**Child Protection**

UNICEF is monitoring the situation with government and partners and is in touch with Child Protection institutions. District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) in the affected districts have been alerted and UNICEF is advocating for the deployment of counsellors from DCPUs to monitor the situation in the affected villages and relief camps. UNICEF has supported ASDMA in setting up a helpline service for providing Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services to the flood affected children and their families. UNICEF is ready to scale up the response as per need. Thirty CFS kits have been pre-positioned in the districts of Lakhimpur, Majuli and Dhemaji. Village Defence Party and Village Disaster Management and Land Management and Conservation Committees are also being trained at Revenue Circle level in Majuli and Dhemaji on monitoring, reporting and referral linkages of child protection and gender-based violence during emergency. A collaborative partnership with education and social protection sections is planned to include assessment of MHPSS needs of flood affected children and linking them with appropriate services. Capacity building of child protection workforce is also planned on Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) issues in worst affected districts.

Seventeen District Coordinators (DCs) were activated for relief camp assessment across 17 districts. Twenty-one relief camps were assessed between 21-22 June across 14 districts while 46 relief camps in nine districts were covered on 23-24 June. Gaps in terms of drinking water, toilets, access to menstrual hygiene products, lack of lighting arrangements and Child Friendly Spaces were conveyed to the district administration. District Coordinators also conducted awareness sessions in the relief camps highlighting the importance of protecting vulnerable children and women, referral for psychosocial support, and sensitising families on child labour and child marriages. Joint Rapid Needs Assessment was also conducted in three districts with the support of adolescent girls and women.

**Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) and Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)**

In collaboration with ASDMA, District Administrations and partner organizations, UNICEF is working to strengthen Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) in several districts. Few of the major SBC/ RCCE interventions include:

- Deployment of SBC consultants and district SBCC coordinators (Social Mobilization network) in flood affected districts including Cachar, Nalbari, Bajali among others to provide assistance in relief camps and support to the flood affected families.
- Mapping of community facilitators and community volunteers by Brahmaputra Foundation in the flood affected villages/communities of three districts (Dhemaji, Majuli and Dibrugarh). The community facilitators and

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*Najima Khatoun from Hojai district trying to dry her textbooks (Image: Outlook India)*
volunteers will be oriented on continuity of essential services during floods and coordination for flood response. The trained team will be conducting community engagement sessions with the flood affected communities of the three districts from July 2022.

**Social Policy**

UNICEF is working to strengthen Gram Panchayat’s (GP) role in both disaster preparedness and building disaster resilience. The GPs are playing an important role in initiating response at local level in the affected districts. Multiple rounds of training at block level in Dhemaji and Majuli as well as at the state level with State Institute for Panchayat and Rural Development (SIPRD) have been conducted this year to address role of GPs in flood preparedness and response. Since, the house related damages are linked to compensation, UNICEF is working with ASDMA to create awareness among flood vulnerable communities on their rights and entitlements. Under the collaborative partnership currently being finalized with child protection and education section, assessment of access to emergency assistance (rehabilitation assistance) and intensive awareness on rights and entitlements of flood affected households in being planned.

**Safety and Security**

Situation has improved as far as communication by road is concerned. Staff members and consultants moving to flood affected districts have been asked to move with caution.

UNICEF India: [https://www.unicef.org/india/](https://www.unicef.org/india/)

Who to contact for further information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>UNICEF State Office for Assam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Madhulika Jonathan</td>
<td>Chief of Field Office</td>
<td>UNICEF State Office for Assam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purvi Malhotra</td>
<td>Communication Specialist</td>
<td>UNICEF State Office for Assam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anand Kanoo</td>
<td>DRR Officer</td>
<td>UNICEF State Office for Assam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mob: +91 6900524478
Email: akanoo@unicef.org