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Reporting Period: 1 – 30 September 2022

Afghanistan

Humanitarian Situation Report

Report # 10

1–30 September 2022



Situation in numbers



24.4 M

People in need of humanitarian assistance (HNO 2022)



13.1 M

children in need of humanitarian assistance (HNO 2022)



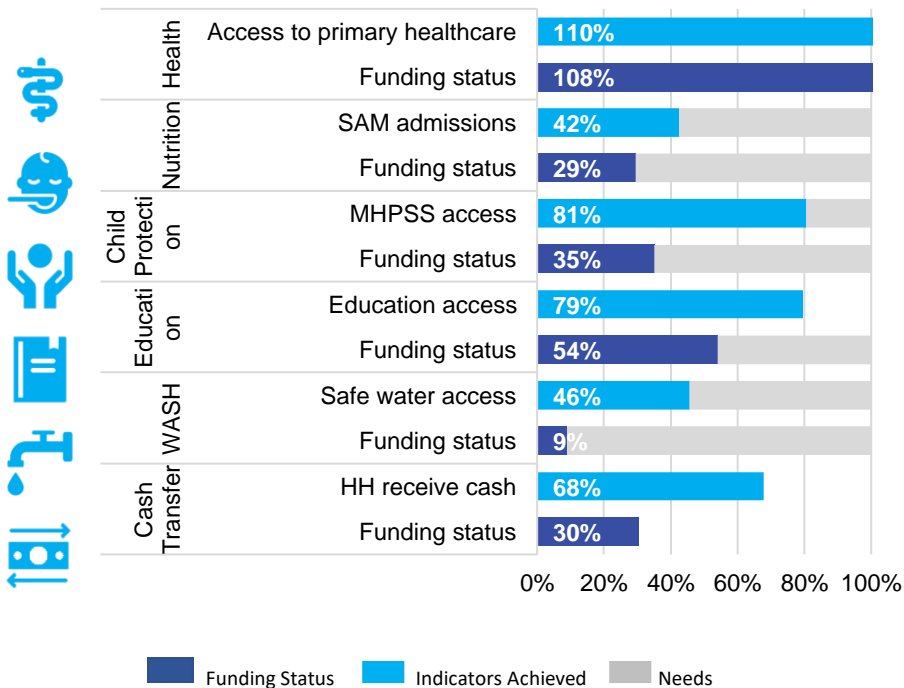
1.1 M

Severely acutely malnourished children under the age of five years expected to need SAM treatment (HRP 2022)

Highlights

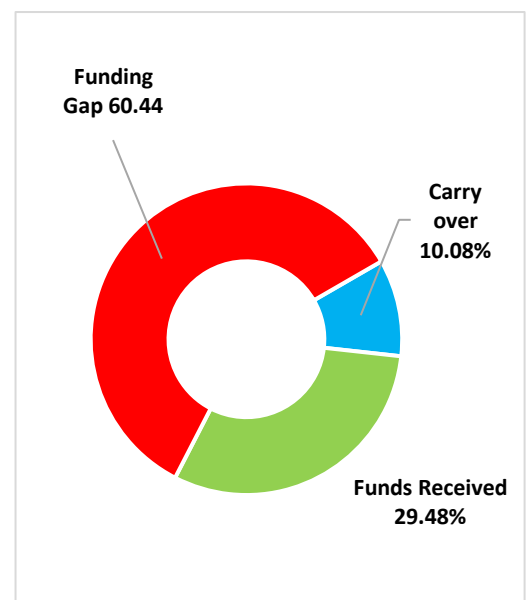
- UNICEF supported a total of 388,891 children (60% per cent girls) through existing and new Community Based education facilities, in the month of September.
- 1,297,172 people gained access to safe water supply with support from UNICEF in drought affected areas.
- Acute Watery Diarrhoea cases are on the decline with the onset of the cold season however, winter often brings additional health and economic challenges to vulnerable households.
- A suicide attack at a Kaaj tuition centre in the Dasht-e-Barchi area in Kabul killed at least 53 people, most of them female students, highlighting the increasing risks facing students trying to gain an education and improve their lives.

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status*



UNICEF Appeal 2022

US\$2,047,724,710



*The response and funding status is cumulative from the beginning of the year

Funding Overview and Partnerships

The UNICEF Afghanistan Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal is the largest single-country appeal in the history of the organization, valued at US\$ 2 billion for 2022. Thanks to generous contributions from partners, the appeal is currently around 40 percent funded. This includes flexible emergency funding from both public and private partners, which enables UNICEF to use resources to respond to rising and sudden needs. Some contributions received in 2021 continue to enable implementation in 2022, together with additional support received this year. UNICEF is grateful to the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund, the governments of Germany and the Republic of Korea, and UNICEF's family of National Committees for contributions received in the last month. UNICEF will continue to partner with donors to ensure sufficient resources are mobilized to address the needs of children and communities in Afghanistan. UNICEF developed and disseminated a winter strategy and is seeking US\$ 75 million for winter activities and funding needs ahead of the onset of the harsh winter season.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The preliminary results of the Whole of Afghanistan Assessment (WoAA) conducted in August and September 2022, show a precarious situation in Afghanistan. While the humanitarian response has prevented a catastrophe, the situation has not improved, with some sectors, such as WASH, seeing a deterioration. Economic shock and drought have fully taken over conflict and COVID-19 as the major drivers of poverty, with needs surpassing most humanitarian thresholds. This requires a shift in the focus of our response. Despite humanitarian partners delivering historic levels of response in 2022, there are more people today who rely on humanitarian assistance as the only source of survival. Moreover, a recent UNDP socio-economic snapshot report shows that the economy lost US\$ 5 billion since August 2021, essentially reversing almost all achievements of the last decade. The report further indicates that poorer households spend 60% of their income on food and sold their assets to survive through the first winter.¹ Prices of food and fuel remain significantly higher than last year despite recent declines. Households in rural areas have begun stocking food for the winter and lean seasons, however, due to elevated food prices, purchasing power remains below average. In addition, with casual labour demand and wage rates at lower levels, some households can only afford 80% of the minimum food basket (MFB).²

Security incidents continue to affect populations across the country. On 30 September, a suicide attack at a Kaaj tuition centre in the Dasht-e-Barchi area in Kabul has killed at least 53 people and injured over 110, most of them female students. Students had been sitting a practice university exam when the incident happened. No group has yet claimed the attack, however the attack continues to highlight the insecurity students, particularly females, when furthering their education.³

As winter sets in, cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) are decreasing across the country. 42,921 cases of AWD were reported during in September, bringing the total since the beginning of May's outbreak to 184,975 cases, with around 55% being children under five years old. However, the winter season brings additional risks such as acute respiratory infections (ARI), increased household debt due to increased expenditure needs, and access to services due to snowfall. UNICEF's Winter Strategy, targeting over 800,000 individuals, aims to alleviate these needs through a combination of prepositioning lifesaving supplies and distributing multi-purpose cash to enable households to meet their urgent humanitarian needs.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

UNICEF continued its work in the health sector by delivering primary, secondary, and tertiary health care. This included delivery of primary health care to populations that have poor access to health facilities and response to acute emergencies including outbreaks and natural disasters.

During the month of September, 171 Mobile Health Nutrition Teams (MHNT) continued to provide services in the remote hard to reach mountainous areas and previously inaccessible areas. Through these MHNTs, over 192,000 people were provided with out-patient consultations, including 87,571 children under-five. One of the major challenges with the provision of emergency health care is the rapid dispatch of supplies due to delays in the issuance of quality certification of pharmaceuticals from the Afghanistan Drug Authority. To mitigate this challenge, UNICEF is staggering the procurement of medicines to ensure a robust supply chain lest a crisis arise.

¹ [One Year in Review: Afghanistan since August 2021: A Socio-Economic Snapshot - Afghanistan | ReliefWeb](#)

² [Afghanistan Key Message Update: Prices of food and fuel remain significantly higher than last year despite recent declines, September 2022 - Afghanistan | ReliefWeb](#)

³ <https://twitter.com/UNAMANews/status/1576905370450075648?t=uiD69mXD4Z9YIs0WtVh-uA&s=09>

Between 11-13 September, 25 Master Trainers were trained so that they can assess the inventory of cold chain equipment for the immunization programme. This was followed by regional level training of assessors and the start of collecting data from sites. There were 2,223 suspected Measles and four associated deaths reported in September, representing the lowest incidence of new cases and deaths in 2022. During the reporting period, more than 37,061 children under-five were vaccinated against Measles through the routine immunization programme. Training of health care workers and preparatory activities for a nationwide Measles immunization campaign was initiated in September 2022.

For the acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) response, UNICEF continued with 33 Integrated Emergency Response Teams (IERTS) in AWD hot-spot locations, established 322 Cholera Treatment Units / Cholera Treatment Centres in health facilities and 2,036 Oral Rehydration Points at both health facilities & community level to enable treatment of AWD.

Nutrition

72,194 children were provided with life-saving severe acute malnutrition (SAM) treatment following the screening of more than 1.27 million children aged 6 to 59 months. UNICEF is scaling-up services across the country with priority given to urban environments due to higher GAM rates. By the end of September, 47 out of 50-day care centres and 44 out of 68 out-patient departments began SAM treatment in Kabul. UNICEF, in coordination with UNFPA, has trained 69 (29 in Kandahar and 40 in Helmand) Family Health House (FHH) midwives on Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) to add a nutrition component to the FHH package across the south region. This is in addition to the 512 health workers trained on IMAM and 151 on Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) across the country in September. 290,708 caregivers were provided with counselling services and a total of 22,606 children aged 6-59 months were provided with Vitamin A supplements.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

Throughout the month of September, UNICEF reached a total of 2,245,642 children and caregivers (250,045 boys, 209,436 girls, 1,369,536 men, and 416,625 women including 5,462 persons with disabilities), with life-saving child protection services, including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services, case management, Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR) and communities' sensitizations on Explosive Ordnance Risks Education (EORE) and Gender Based Violence (GBV).

2,102,283 children and caregivers (195,226 boys, 162,399 girls, 1,360,656 men, and 384,002 women) were reached with messaging on wellbeing and structured MHPSS and Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) services. This was part of UNICEF's MHPSS scale up programme to reach children and care givers through social media including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. The social media outreach is combined with targeted and structured MHPSS and referral to specialized Mental Health (MH) available services. A total of 12,064 extremely vulnerable children (4,850 girls and 7,214 boys) benefited from case management services in all regions, including family tracing and reunification services for 2,222 unaccompanied and separated children (623 girls and 1,599 boys). Through integrated programming, a total of 545,250 children and members of communities (108,930 girls, 142,590 boys, 137,503 women, and 156,227 men) became aware of the risks of the EORE and contributed to prevent injuries and deaths caused by explosive ordnances (EO). To ensure that we reach children and caregivers with timely and quality child protection services, UNICEF supported capacity building of 1,604 front line service providers (393 female and 1,211 male) on MHPSS, PFA, case management and gender-based violence (GBV).

During September, 24,000 posters and cards on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) with PSEA mitigation measures, response, and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) reporting information were printed in local languages and added to the dignity kits package for women and girls in central, northern, and southern regions. As a result, women and girls will have access to life-saving messages on PSEA and be better able to recognize the SEA reporting channels and identify acts of SEA.

Through partners in southern region at the women's and girls' safe space, 2,034 frontline workers, service providers, and community leaders (268 boys, 548 girls, 783 men, and 435 women) received awareness sessions on PSEA that included their rights and entitlements and how to report SEA. In addition, 3,000 U-Report flyers and 2,000 PSEA posters with PSEA awareness messages were distributed to the participants to disseminate and cascade the PSEA messages in the field project areas. In the western region, partners and PSEA focal points also conducted awareness-raising sessions for 48,250 (24,270 females and 23,980 male) community extenders, social mobilizers, and partners, and they distributed PSEA posters during the sessions.

Education

UNICEF continued supporting approximately 299,430 children (55% girls) with educational opportunities through 9,981 community-based education (CBE) classes. In September, UNICEF opened new CBEs nationwide, enabling an additional

89,461 children to go to school bringing the total to 388,891 children (60% girls). UNICEF also supported 2,731 public school students to access education in the southern region through support to reopening previously closed public schools and the improving existing public schools in Helmand and Zabul. UNICEF also distributed classroom materials, teaching, and learning materials and textbooks to CBEs and public schools, benefitting a total of 1,241,724 students, of which 852,851 were children in public schools. UNICEF also paid salaries for 9,329 CBE teachers in September, and supported the training of 2,690 teachers, of which 2,407 were CBE teachers and 283 were new female students, through the Girls' Access to Teacher Education (GATE) programme in the central region.

UNICEF continued to monitor the situation through staff, technical extenders, and partners, and found that despite restrictions, secondary schools remained open for girls in 12 provinces, with secondary schools fully open in 5 provinces and partially open in 7 provinces.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

UNICEF continued to support different emergency response WASH interventions in flood, earthquake, drought and AWD affected areas. Due to the prolonged drought, access to safe and sufficient water sources continues to be a significant issue across several provinces. UNICEF provided safe water supplies to 1,297,172 people through water trucking, rehabilitating and constructing of water supply systems, monitoring water quality, chlorinating trucked water and training technical staff to minimize the impact of drought.

As part of integrated WASH services to minimize the impact of the drought, 1,699,225 people were reached with hygiene promotion and 1,947,387 people with hygiene supplies. The awareness sessions were conducted through social mobilizers and Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) facilitators in coordination with the social behaviour change (SBC) section and focused on personal hygiene, safe water use and construction of latrines. The hygiene promotion activities were integrated with the distribution of WASH supplies in the AWD/Cholera affected areas and families with SAM children.

In addition, more than 296,000 people gained access to improved sanitation through emergency latrine construction and implementation of CLTS process in central and eastern regions. 14 additional healthcare facilities and 18 additional schools were provided with WASH services benefitting approximately 25,000 people in Kandahar and Helmand provinces, and 6,944 students and teachers in western region.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

In September 2022, 9,226,100 people were reached through national awareness campaigns on key behaviour change messages and lifesaving information related to humanitarian situations and outbreaks. Moreover, 311,153 people were engaged in two-way communication through community engagement sessions on prevention of malnutrition, uptake of routine immunizations, prevention of acute watery diarrhoea and COVID-19, handling and treating drinking water safely, avoiding open defecation and practicing personal and environmental hygiene. These sessions were conducted by Social Mobilizers in different provinces. 5,725 people from different community leadership structures were trained on key behaviour change messages and lifesaving information related to household and community-based hygiene, routine immunization, mother and child health, the importance of reporting to health facilities if the child is sick or underweight and prevention of AWD and COVID-19.

Social behaviour change (SBC) interventions reinforced an integrated community engagement system composed of various platforms for strengthening Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) in humanitarian response. This was done through a two-way dialogue with communities supporting the program design, delivery, and the collection of community insights and feedback. 7,207 people shared their feedback and concerns through various channels such as Social Mobilizers, Community Engagement & Feedback Centres (CEFCs) and AWAAZ, a local system for complaints and feedback mechanisms, on their needs and existing services. Most people expressed concerns about lack of safe drinking water, girls' education (grade 7-12), and lack of medicines in health facilities amid AWD/Cholera. The complaints and feedback were addressed by providing information and by referring to the relevant sections and clusters.

Gender and Adolescent Development and Participation

14,111 people (6,586 girls and 7,725 women) accessed Women's and Girls' Safe Spaces (WGSS) in September while an additional WGSS were established in Qalat district of Zabul province, bringing the total to 88 WGSS across 15 provinces. 651 GBV cases (92 girls, 556 women) were reported at WGSS and were provided with psychosocial support and appropriate referrals. Through community dialogues and awareness raising sessions, 67,725 people (32,775 women,

14,596 men, 15,688 girls, 4,666 boys) were reached with GBV prevention messages and women's and girls' protection messages including prevention of cholera and polio vaccination.

532 people (223 adolescent girls, 309 adolescent boys) received life skills training and peer-to-peer mentoring sessions. A total of 119 beneficiaries (99 women, 20 girls) completed the livelihood training on tailoring and beauty parlour techniques and received supporting materials and tools. Four men's and boys' networks (MBN) were established with 200 members (110 men and 90 boys) in Laghman Province totalling 89 MBNs with 1773 members across 12 provinces. MBN monthly meetings were held with 3,390 members (2368 men and 1022 boys) in project districts and discussed the various issues pertaining women's and girls' access to life-critical services.

During September, 300 religious' leaders (270 male and 30 female) were trained in Kandahar and Paktia provinces. Friday sermons on maternal and child health, child marriage, parenting, and ending child marriage were provided to 290 community members (151 men and 139 boys) at Sheikhan Central Mosque of Alishang district, Laghman province. A district level advocacy meeting was held with 50 influential people in Kandahar. A total of 349 dignity kits and 2,553 bars of soap were distributed to vulnerable women and girls in Daikundi, Parwan and Gardez provinces to support them with their personal hygiene, and home hygiene needs. Safety audits were conducted in Kunduz and Daikuni provinces to identify women's and girls' perceptions of their safety in the targeted areas while providing health, nutrition, WASH and other critical life services. UNICEF aired 12 radio episodes in Kandahar province to raise awareness on women's rights and roles reaching over 17,640 community members.

Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash Transfers (HCT)

In September, UNICEF provided humanitarian cash assistance to the households affected by the earthquake in Spera district of Khost Province. UNICEF reached 1,198 households with a one-off Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) covering a critical gap identified by the Cash and Voucher Working Group. UNICEF began the registration of 12,000 additional households in Daikundi province for cash-based assistance, bringing the case load to 18,000 households with pregnant and lactating women, enabling them to access antenatal care, institutional delivery, and post-natal care.

UNICEF will begin the final round of cash transfers in Badghis Province, reaching over 30,000 households with multi-purpose cash assistance. The distribution of multi-purpose cash assistance in Badghis province will take place in October.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

The HNO (Humanitarian Needs Overview) and HRP (Humanitarian Response Plan) processes are underway. Initial meetings have been held between the UNICEF-led clusters and OCHA to agree on planning scenarios and strategic objectives for the 2023 HRP. From the completed Whole of Afghanistan Assessment (WoAA), the drivers of humanitarian needs have shifted from being driven by conflict to socio-economic factors.

The nutrition cluster participated in the Protection mainstreaming workshop and committed to revisit and update its related guidance papers, establishing a task force for the review. As part of the capacity strengthening for subnational coordination, four new subnational coordinators were engaged in a 2-day orientation session on cluster coordination. As part of the HPC process, the nutrition cluster successfully compiled the preliminary results of 26 provinces under the ongoing national SMART survey which were presented at the ICCT HNO workshop, the cluster meeting and the HCT meeting. More importantly, the nutrition cluster conducted the first ever IPC for Acute Malnutrition that brought 35 participants for a 4-day training workshop and a 7-day IPC AMN analysis workshop for the classification of the current and projected nutrition situation.

External Media, Statements & Human-Interest Stories

EXTERNAL MEDIA

- [Voice of America interview with Zheela Noori and Bahirullah Wyaar on humanitarian situation](#)

STATEMENTS AND PRESS RELEASES

- Press release: [United Kingdom contributes GBP 24 million to provide emergency support to children and women in Afghanistan](#)
- Statement: [UNICEF is appalled by the attack inside the Kaaj Education Center](#)

HUMAN-INTEREST STORIES

- [New toys, new friends and a new start](#)
- [Afghan cricketers use sports limelight to advocate for polio vaccinations](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

- [UNICEF statement on the Kaaj Educational Center attack](#)
- [Afghan cricketers advocate for polio vaccination](#)
- [One year of lost learning and future opportunities for girls](#)
- [UNICEF Germany and FCDO-UK support child-friendly spaces](#)
- [UNICEF Afghanistan welcomes Uni](#)
- [ARTF and how it helps women and children in Afghanistan](#)
- [The impact of floods on families and UNICEF's response](#)
- [UNICEF partners with WHO to vaccinate children against measles](#)
- [UNICEF provides safe drinking water to flood-affected families](#)

Next SitRep: 15 November 2022

UNICEF Afghanistan Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/>

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Summary of Programme Results*

Sector	Total needs	UNICEF and IPs Response			Cluster/Sector Response		
		2022* target	Total results (Jan-Sep)	Change (Sep) ▲ ▼	2022 target	Total results (Jan-Sep)	Change (Sep) ▲ ▼
Health							
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles	9,790,030	10,465,896	1,592,165 ⁴	37,061			
Number of people accessing primary healthcare through UNICEF supported facilities	11,290,030	15,338,868	16,824,343 ⁵	2,633,763			
Nutrition							
Number of children 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment.	1,078,804	1,078,804	458,471	72,194	539,402	386,277	72,194
Number of primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	2,670,547	2,136,438	2,282,708	290,708	2,136,438	1,992,00	290,708
Number of children aged 6-59 months who received vitamin A supplements in semester one	6,759,823	5,407,859	8,425,663 ⁶	-	5,407,859	8,425,66	-
Number of children aged 6-59 months who received MNP ⁷	2,959,419	2,959,419	226,065	-	1,602,628	226,065	-
Child Protection, GBVIE and PSEA							
Number of children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	4,460,000	4,237,000	3,410,944	2,102,283	1,370,000	3,474,432	2,102,283
Number of unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services	45,000	42,750	13,278	2,222	14,000	13,457	2,222
Number of girls and boys who have suffered from grave child rights violations (including former CAAFAG & children in detention) benefitted from social and economic reintegration and life skill assistance.	43,800	41,610	3,937	1,448	13,500	4,064	1,448
Number of women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention, or response interventions		63,590	419,721	58,594		-	-
Number of children and adults accessing explosive weapons-related risk education		1,000,000	1,376,856	545,250		-	-
Number of people (disaggregated by age and sex) reached through UNICEF supported awareness activities and community mobilization interventions on PSEA		1,000,000	434,695	76,397			
Number of individuals (M/F) & Implementing partners trained on SEA prevention, risk mitigation and SEA Reporting mechanisms		700	16,574	6,141			
Education							
Number of school-aged girls and boys affected by shocks receive direct support for their education	7,921,797	7,525,707	5,981,126	1,241,724	1,500,000	490,611	15,499
Number of female and male teachers receiving incentives (salaries) as a stop gap measure in CBEs and public schools (6 months)	203,870	203,870	211,660	9,329	37,500	16,635	477
Number of teachers male/ female trained (in-service/pre-service)	37,500	101,935	14,627	2,690	15,326	7,246	859

⁴ Total results revised due to ongoing data cleaning exercises by implementing partners

⁵ Total results revised due to ongoing data cleaning exercises by implementing partners

⁶ Vitamin A distribution through polio vaccination campaigns

⁷ MNP distribution only began recently. Results will be reported in the next Situation Report.

*The response and funding status is cumulative from the beginning of the year

WASH							
Number of people (M/F) accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene	15,302,274	11,537,160	5,271,588	1,297,172	10,429,585	5,962,800	703,840
Number of people gain access to gender and disability-sensitive sanitation facilities	8,503,812	7,478,621	787,475	295,346	898,513	935,688	213,356
Number of people (M/F) reached with handwashing behaviour change programmes	15,302,274	11,537,160	5,073,563	1,699,225	10,429,585	6,435,576	434,655
Number of people (disaggregated by sex & age) reached with critical WASH supplies	9,695,738	9,210,951	6,133,396	1,947,387	3,942,068	6,224,272	787,591
HCT/Social Policy							
Number of households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers		160,000	108,354 ⁸	8,397			
SBC/AAP							
Number of people (disaggregated by age & sex) who shared their concerns and asked questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms		20,000	80,394	7,207			
Number of people reached with key behaviour change messages and lifesaving information on humanitarian situations and outbreaks (disaggregated by age, sex)		7,000,000	9,226,100	-			
Gender, Youth, and Adolescent Development							
Number of women and girls accessing safe spaces		9,400	128,891	14,111			
Number of people who participate in group education/dialogue sessions on consequences of and alternatives to child marriage, the rights of adolescent girls, and gender equality		1,000,000	303,046	67,725			
Number of adolescents (girls and boys) who actively participated in life skills or comprehensive sexuality education interventions to address child marriage		120,000	36,662	5,551			

Annex B

Funding Status

Appeal Sector	2022 HAC Requirements (US\$)	Funds available		2022 Funding Gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Resources available from 2021 (carry-over)	\$	%
Nutrition	204,095,521	43,741,489	16,415,409	143,938,623	70.53%
Health	334,457,872	259,029,178	102,985,464	0	0.00%
WASH	768,889,756	50,106,624	20,324,488	698,458,644	90.84%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	71,920,805	16,330,849	8,921,048	46,668,908	64.89%
Education	440,853,967	209,911,042	27,879,531	203,063,394	46.06%
Social Protection/HCT	208,504,821	41,665,228	21,796,912	145,042,681	69.56%
Adolescents/Youth/Gender	3,853,594	2,403,656	991,150	458,788	11.91%
Cross-sectoral (SBC, RCCE and AAP)	6,648,374	1,151,677	5,496,697	0	0.00%
Program Management Unit	8,500,000	6,903,522	1,596,478	0	0.00%
Total	2,047,724,710	631,243,266	206,407,177	1,237,631,037	60.44%

⁸ Only includes unique households, counting households reached with multiple rounds of cash transfers in 2022 only once.