In the 11 countries covered in this Eastern and Southern Africa regional appeal, approximately 38 million people, including 23 million children, are in need of humanitarian support due to climate-related shocks, health emergencies, conflict and civil unrest, economic deterioration and displacement.

In collaboration with partners, in these 11 countries UNICEF will deliver life-saving services for children, women and families affected by emergencies, including 860,000 people living in displacement and refugee camps. Advocacy for education will be prioritized to address learning losses incurred during emergencies.

UNICEF will work with women, youth leaders and community-based organizations to strengthen capacities for emergency preparedness and response. The goal is to build shock-responsive and climate adaptive systems for better child-centred resilience. UNICEF will continue to address gender-based violence prevention, mitigation and response, including protection from sexual exploitation and abuse; and will promote disability inclusion and accountability to affected communities.

UNICEF is appealing for US$45 million to address humanitarian needs in the 11 countries covered in the regional appeal.

**IN NEED**
- 16.1 million people in need of health assistance
- 7.6 million people in need of nutrition assistance
- 6.1 million children in need of protection services
- 3 million out of school children
- 16.6 million people lack access to safe water

**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS**
US$ 45 million
HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Nearly 38 million people, including 23 million children, need humanitarian support in the 11 countries covered in this regional appeal. Climate-related shocks (including their impact on food insecurity), malnutrition, health emergencies (including Ebola, cholera, measles and polio), civil unrest and conflict, economic deterioration and displacement are the major drivers of humanitarian need. People in need of assistance are as follows: Botswana: 38,000; Burundi: 1.8 million; the Comoros: 345,000; Eswatini: 347,000; Malawi: 3 million; Namibia: 441,000; South Africa: 14 million; United Republic of Tanzania: 750,000; Zambia: 11 million; Lesotho: 582,000; and Rwanda: 4 million. These countries are home to about 860,000 refugees, asylum-seekers and people of concern. They also continue to struggle with the residual impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and a global economic downturn. These have disrupted routine services, predisposing children to the risks of disease and death.

Sixteen million people need urgent health care in the 11 countries, and about 17 million people need clean water and sanitation and hygiene (WASH) support. Poverty and food insecurity have left 7.6 million people in need of nutrition support and other basic services (health, WASH, education, protection and other services). Disrupted learning driven by emergencies, including the residual impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, affects children’s education in a context where more than 3 million children are out of school in these 11 countries.

The risks of gender-based violence, including sexual violence, exploitation and abuse and intimate partner violence are becoming even more acute in the region. This is due to drought, widespread food insecurity, displacements, conflict and public health emergencies. Female-headed households, older women, adolescent girls and those with disabilities face heightened vulnerabilities to sexual violence, exploitation and abuse, and greater risk of child marriage and female genital mutilation during emergencies. Extreme poverty is exacerbated by emergencies, and this is also driving displacements. Humanitarian needs are further compounded by the negative impact of climate in the region which is witnessing an increase in the frequency, severity and scale of climate hazards.

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

In line with government and inter-agency response plans and the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office will provide multisectoral technical, operational and advocacy support to the 11 UNICEF country offices covered in this appeal. This support will strengthen an integrated, multisectoral response to deliver life-saving services for children, women and families affected by climatic shocks and disease outbreaks, including people living in displacement and refugee camps. Additionally, UNICEF will promote sustainable social and behavioural change to prepare for and respond to crises, and will link humanitarian action with development programmes.

UNICEF will support integrated approaches to preventing and treating wasting by offering a continuum of care for children and mothers. UNICEF will emphasize prevention, early detection and treatment (including for HIV) through health facilities and community-based platforms. WASH interventions will address waterborne diseases and contribute to preventing undernutrition, and they will include providing basic services for people affected by emergencies. Access to water in camps, menstrual hygiene and health facilities and schools will be prioritized. UNICEF will advocate for learning in emergency contexts and address the massive learning losses through innovative approaches. UNICEF will work with women, youth leaders and community-based organizations to address gender-based violence, including protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. UNICEF will promote disability inclusion and accountability to affected communities. Strengthening prevention and response to mental health and psychosocial needs in the region will be a priority, including strengthening psychosocial training and support systems for front-line workers, parents and caregivers, children and adolescents.

UNICEF will support risk analysis, preparedness for predictable risks - including health emergencies, climate-shocks and economic deterioration - and regional team technical readiness for deployment where needed. The Regional Office will support country offices to ensure effective and timely response microplanning in emergencies, including through missions/surge deployments.

STORY FROM THE FIELD

The South African province of KwaZulu Natal was affected by flooding in April 2022. This resulted in the destruction of infrastructure, including roads, homes, schools and health facilities. The flooding killed about 500 people and caused the displacement of more than 40,000 people, who then required support ranging from shelter to such essential services as WASH, nutrition, health, education and child protection. UNICEF supported the provincial government and the national government to address some of these humanitarian needs.

A UNICEF child protection manager demonstrates hand-washing to children at a shelter in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. The country received WASH support from UNICEF following floods in April 2022.
UNICEF is appealing for US$45 million to meet heightened emergency preparedness and response requirements in 11 countries in Eastern and Southern Africa in 2023. For 2023, regional humanitarian requirements exclude COVID-19-related interventions because they have been integrated instead into longer-term development needs and regular programmes. Burundi was added to the 2023 regional appeal (and no longer has a standalone appeal) given the scale-down of the emergency caseload and programming in that country.

The needs in this appeal are related to expanded preparedness and response for drought and cyclones/floods, disease outbreaks including cholera, Ebola and others, and conflicts, displacements and economic deterioration.

This funding will allow UNICEF to support host governments in the 11 countries and the most vulnerable populations living in them with a continuation of essential health, nutrition, education, child protection and social protection services - all of which have lacked sufficient funding so far. The funds will allow UNICEF to scale up life-saving nutrition activities, including treatment for severe wasting, vitamin A supplementation and infant and young child feeding counselling, and to meet rising health and WASH needs.

Child protection and education remain the least-funded sectors and require urgent resources for multiple emergency responses in the region. Without this funding, UNICEF will be unable to support adequate preparedness for and response to the humanitarian needs of the millions of children and women who are projected to be affected by humanitarian crises in 2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2023 requirements (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency response</td>
<td>35,000,000[28,30,31]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Preparedness</td>
<td>5,000,000[32]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Office support</td>
<td>5,000,000[33]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>45,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1. COVID-19 remains a Public Health Emergency of International Concern as declared by the World Health Organization in January 2020. On 1 July 2022, UNICEF deactivated its Level 3 Sustained Phase for the global COVID-19 pandemic response. All activities related to COVID-19 pandemic response, including programme targets and funding requirements, have been shifted into regular development programming and operations. While UNICEF’s Level 3 emergency response phase of the COVID-19 pandemic was deactivated, the organization is continuing to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on children, their families and their communities and on the social systems they rely on.

2. Countries covered in this appeal are Botswana, Burundi, the Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

3. This calculation is based on such country-level in-need analysis documents as government surveys, intersectoral reports, nutrition surveys and health in-need documents from the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

4. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports the following numbers as of August and September 2022: Botswana (915); Burundi (86,541); the Comoros (28); Eswatini (1,962); Lesotho (524); Malawi (55,959); Namibia (7,048); Rwanda (121,729); South Africa (240,148); the United Republic of Tanzania (248,244); and Zambia (94,618).

5. This includes US$35 million for multi-hazard emergency response, US$5 million for emergency preparedness and US$5 million for Regional Office technical support.

6. The in-need figures reflect the people in need in the major sectors that UNICEF supports in the 11 countries covered in this regional appeal.

7. This is based on country-level calculations for emergency health response needs, taking into account the needs linked to cholera, acute watery diarrhoea, polio, measles, malaria and dengue fever for the 11 countries covered in this appeal.

8. Health services include HIV testing and treatment services.


10. This calculation is based on such country-level in-need analysis documents as government surveys and intersectoral reports from UNHCR, International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNICEF and OCHA.


12. The number of people in need increased due to droughts, conflicts and economic deterioration, which have impacted water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services throughout the region.

13. Estimates are based on such country-level in-need analysis documents as government surveys (including vulnerability assessments), intersectoral reports, Southern Africa Climate Outlook Forum (SACORF) Report 2022, and UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF and OCHA reports in 2022.


15. This calculation is based on such country-level in-need analysis documents as government surveys, intersectoral reports, nutrition surveys and health in-need documents from WHO, UNICEF and OCHA.

16. UNHCR reports of August and September 2022: Botswana (915); Burundi (86,541); the Comoros (28); Eswatini (1,962); Lesotho (524); Malawi (55,959); Namibia (7,048); Rwanda (121,729); South Africa (240,148); the United Republic of Tanzania (248,244); and Zambia (94,618).


18. Based on emergency health needs in the 11 countries covered under this appeal.

19. The estimated number of people in need of humanitarian/emergency WASH assistance is based on the needs in the 11 countries included in this appeal, obtained from multiple data sources.

20. Based on nutrition SMART surveys and Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) Integrated Food Security Phase Calculation of 3 and above in assessments in the 11 countries included in this appeal.


22. Covered directly under this appeal: Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia are also hosting and responding to nearly 450,000 refugees from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including 230,000 children.


24. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.

25. Strategies outlined are for the 11 countries included in this appeal.

26. In line with the Grand Bargain commitments.

27. Emphasis will also be placed on rolling out the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, emergency monitoring and information management and surge deployments.

28. There is a decrease in this line item from US$68 million in 2022 to US$45 million is due to the exclusion of COVID-19-related requirements in 2023. These are now incorporated into regular programming.

29. Based on the estimated budgets from the 11 countries included in this appeal.

30. Forty per cent of the emergency response funding will be dedicated to cross-sectoral areas as follows: cash interventions, 10 per cent; social and behavioural change and accountability to affected populations, 10 per cent; disability inclusion, 5 per cent; and gender programming, 15 per cent.

31. The requirements for emergency response have doubled compared with 2022 due to an increase in the number of emergencies in the region. Additionally, the costs of interventions have also increased significantly due to the global economic downturn.

32. Funding will be allocated for preparedness actions for predictable risks in the 11 country offices included in this appeal.

33. Funding will be used mostly for Regional Office staff, missions and other related costs to support all 21 countries in the region.