Heavy rainfall and overflowing rivers in the past months have affected 4.4 million people across Nigeria, including 2.6 million children, as the country experienced the worst floods in a decade. The water damaged not only people’s homes and farmlands, but also put public health facilities, water systems, and sanitation facilities out of service, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases, such as cholera, diarrhoea, and malaria.

Some 2.4 million people were displaced and took temporary refuge in makeshift internally displaced people (IDP) sites, such as schools and health facilities, which impinged on the continuity of basic services. As the water is receding, IDP sites are being closed. The families who can are returning home, and those whose houses are too damaged are accommodated in the community. While the schools and health facilities that were hosting IDPs are able to resume their function, the facilities damaged by the floods need support to reinstate their services. At this critical moment, it is necessary to ensure that children in the community are reached with an integrated response to minimize the impact of floods on their lives.

UNICEF, in coordination with the Government, NGOs and other UN agencies, focuses on addressing immediate needs and implementing early recovery interventions in the affected communities from October 2022 to June 2023.

**UNICEF RESPONSE**

**States:** Adamawa, Anambra, Bayelsa, Benue, Borno, Jigawa, Kaduna, Niger, Yobe

**Areas of intervention:**

- Health
- WASH
- Child Protection
- Education
- Nutrition
- Cash and Voucher Assistance
In need: An estimated 25% of the initial 68,900 people still displaced, including in 13 camps.

Completed response:
WASH: Constructed ten and repaired 20 hand pump boreholes covering 10,000 people in IDP camps and communities, and improved sanitation for more than 1,000 people via rehabilitation of emergency latrines.

Health: Provided emergency medical supplies and financial support to Government-led mobile health teams, reaching nearly 8,000 children in 13 LGAs.

Child Protection: Provided, with the Government, community-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and gender-based violence (GBV) awareness-raising activities in 27 IDP camps, and created safe spaces for children where trained facilitators held activities with provided recreational materials.

Education: Supported 165 temporary learning centres in 27 communities, reaching 6,000 children with education and supplies, is airing a 3-month radio learning programme till year end, and distributed 200 solar-powered radios in six IDP camps.

Nutrition: Conducted a screening for cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in IDP camps and made treatment available to 1,064 children with SAM.

NIGER STATE

In need: 37,000 people affected and 35,600 displaced.

Ongoing response:
WASH: Carrying out sanitation promotion in 42 communities and hygiene promotion in 60 communities by over 120 trained volunteer hygiene promoters, and providing handwashing facilities to over 300 households.

Planned response:
WASH: Chlorinating unprotected water sources, providing latrines, water supply services, environmental sanitation, and distributing WASH, cholera, and menstrual hygiene kits in six LGAs.

Health: Supporting integrated primary health care (PHC) services, community engagement to improve health-seeking behaviour, and providing essential medicine and health supplies, including emergency health kits, in six LGAs.

Child Protection: Community sensitization and key stakeholder engagement on GBV prevention and child protection issues, MHPSS and case management, and reunification services for UASC.

KADUNA STATE

In need: 9,500 people affected and 2,300 displaced.

Completed response:
Anticipatory Action: 5,000 households in flood-prone urban areas received cash transfers in August to mitigate the impact of anticipated floods. Cash was primarily used for food and health-related services, followed by the protection of assets; only 20% of beneficiaries were able to save cash. The floods occurred one month after cash transfer was triggered by forecasts.

Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States

In need: 253,900 people affected and 97,700 people were displaced.

Completed response:
WASH: Chlorinated water points, distributed aqua tabs, cholera kits, and hygiene kits, constructed boreholes and drainages; and undertook hygiene promotion, water trucking, and latrine desludging and disinfection.

Health: Set up oral rehydration points, provided essential medical supplies, stipends to healthcare workers, and capacity building to health workers.

Child Protection: Distributed non-food items (NFIs) to GBV survivors, unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and mothers with newborns; provided MHPSS, and created child-friendly spaces.

Bayelsa State

In need: 1,344,000 people affected and 1,210,000 displaced.

Ongoing response:
Health: Supporting Government-led medical outreaches to 32 flood-affected communities and IDP camps, and providing community engagement, reaching over 5,000 people.

Planned response:
WASH: Providing latrines, water supply services, hygiene promotion, cholera risk awareness raising, and environmental sanitation.

Health: Providing integrated PHC services, essential medicine and health supplies, and community engagement to improve health-seeking behaviour.


Anambra State

In need: 729,000 people affected and 526,000 displaced.

Ongoing response:
Health: Supporting the resumption and continuation of integrated PHC services, providing essential medicine and health supplies, and community engagement to improve health-seeking behaviour.

WASH: Providing latrines, water supply services, cholera kits, hygiene promotion, cholera risk awareness, and environmental sanitation in 100 flood-affected communities across six LGAs.

Planned response:
Child Protection: Prevention of family separation and reunification services for UASC, MHPSS, and strengthening community-based protection systems for GBV prevention.

Benue State

In need: 83,000 people affected and 32,600 displaced.

Completed response:
WASH: Distributed 400 cholera kits, reaching 2,400 people with cholera prevention and response in IDP camps.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Funds needed: $12 million
Funds available: $7.5 million
Funding gap: $4.5 million

UNICEF Nigeria commenced its flood response in Jigawa and Niger States by allocating limited internal resources to address immediate WASH and Health needs. Donor contributions were granted to expand the response, including from the CERF, ECHO, UNICEF’s National Committees, and Sweden primarily for southern states. With a 38% funding gap, additional funding is still required to reach children in the most affected areas. With your support, UNICEF’s emergency response can reduce the impact of flooding in Nigeria.

For more information please contact
UNICEF Nigeria:
Christina Valderamma Maya-Alfirev
Emergency Manager
cvalderamma@unicef.org

Bai Ajoku
Resource Mobilization Specialist
bajoku@unicef.org