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Reporting Period January-December 2022

Madagascar Country Office Humanitarian Situation Report No. 17



Situation in Numbers

1,285,000

people facing high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and 4)

187,000

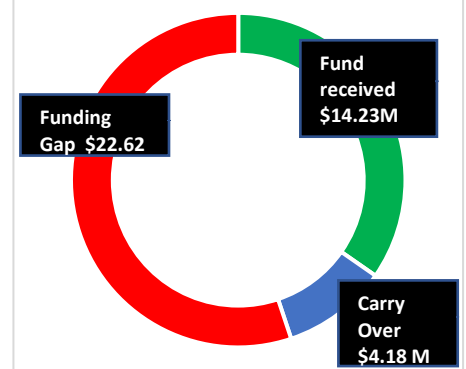
People affected by cyclone

575,000

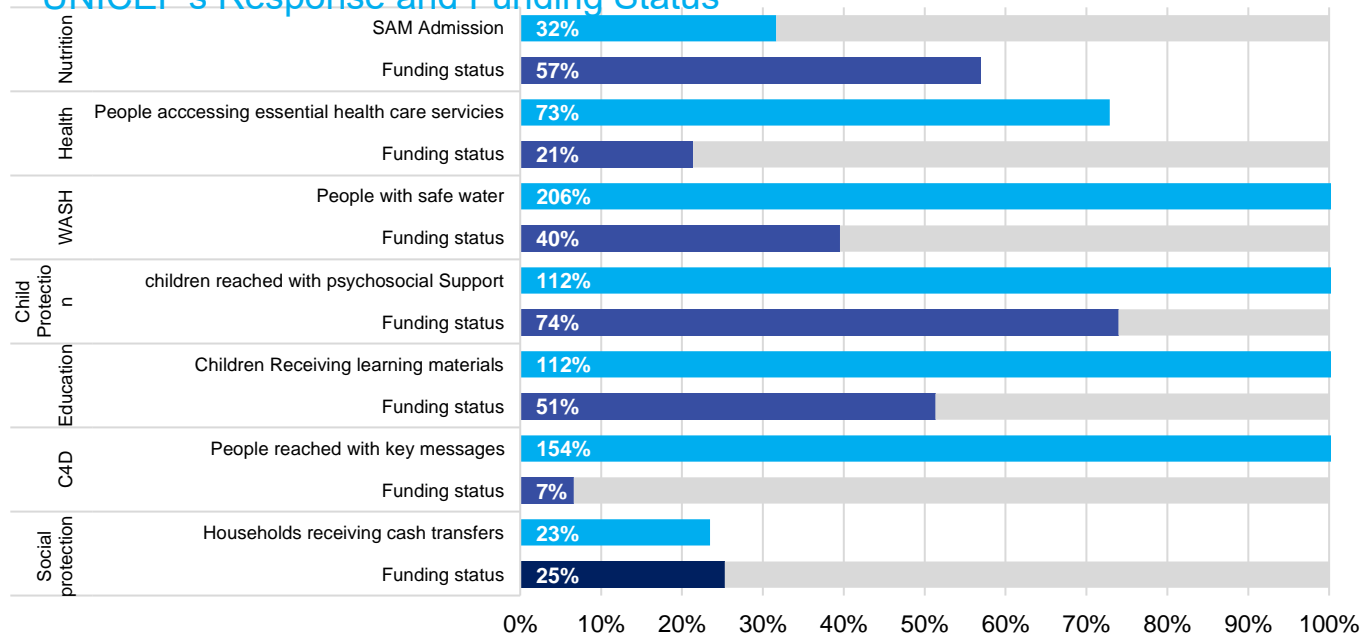
children in need

- The nutrition situation improved between January 2022 and December 2022 compared to the same period last year. However, as of December 2022, 12 out of 21 districts are still in IPC Nutrition phase 3 (severe). The number of children admitted to the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition remains high with 34,803 children (17,750 boys and 17,053 girls) treated through UNICEF support.
- UNICEF's emergency WASH interventions in 2022 reached over 1,029,763 people (227,898 women; 287,915 girls; 226,785 men; 287,165 boys) in drought affected regions of the south and cyclone hit areas of southeast Madagascar.
- UNICEF's coordination activities in collaboration with actors working on cash transfers supported 380,000 households affected by drought and cyclones and 7,850 households receiving universal child benefit.
- In 2022, UNICEF, together with the Ministry of Health, provided emergency health support in cyclone- and drought-affected areas to 186,766 people, including 11,205 pregnant women and 175,561 children under five, covering 93% of the year's targets.
- UNICEF also supported the continuity of education for children in humanitarian situations. Education interventions reached over 491,000 children and adolescents (including 247,000 girls) in the regions affected by drought and cyclones in the South and Southern regions of Androy, Anosy, Atsimo Atsinanana.

Funding status 2022



UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



Funding Overview and Partnerships

To ensure an immediate response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis, and to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs of children and women, UNICEF Madagascar launched a US\$ 40 million appeal. As of 31 December 2022, 43 per cent of the appeal had been received.

UNICEF supported the preparation and coordination of the response in partnership with other actors (Humanitarian Country Team), especially under the WASH and Nutrition clusters, and in coordination with the National Office for Disaster Management. The partnerships reinforced joint responses during the crisis, with UNICEF prepositioning supplies in most at risk areas, providing reports on the situation and facilitating sectoral coordination – especially with its NGO partners. Key areas of the response focused on nutrition, WASH, health, shock-responsive social protection (humanitarian cash transfers), and education, while advocating for specific attention to be given to protection and gender.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Since January 2022, UNICEF conducted four evaluations of the nutritional situation including two mass screenings (one in January-February 2022 and one in July-August 2022). A Multisectoral Assessment (EAM) with focus on food and nutrition security was conducted in March-April 2022, and a SMART nutrition survey in July 2022 in the south-east. Based on the results of the first assessments, the prevalence of proxy-GAM (Global Acute Malnutrition) in the three-drought affected southern regions of Androy, Anosy and Atsimo Andrefana was approximately 9 per cent (serious nutrition situation) and EAM Proxy-GAM prevalence estimation was 9.5 per cent in the eastern cyclone hit districts. This prevalence is lower than the Proxy-GAM from the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey in 10 districts (12.4 per cent - CI [10.8-14.2]) conducted in March/April 2021 and consistent with the overall improvement of the humanitarian situation. According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), these regions are classified in IPC phase 2 (alert) or IPC phase 3 (serious) situations. The IPC Acute Malnutrition (AMN) analysis done in August 2022 for the southeast and southern regions, showed that 14 out of 21 districts are expected to see the nutrition situation deteriorate into IPC phase 3 (severe) between October 2022 and April 2023. It is estimated that by the end of the lean season at least 479,044 children will suffer from acute malnutrition in 14 districts of southern and southeast Madagascar, including 91,990 with severe wasting (38,967 in the southeast and 53,023 in the south).

Although rainfall has generally improved, underground water levels are still below seasonal norms in certain areas. This has made water extraction more difficult. However, the situation has improved slightly, with the latest data¹ released in September 2022 indicating that around 1.26 per cent of the territory presents favourably with 74.61 per cent of the surveyed areas in normal-vigilance situations, 23 per cent in alarm alert, and 0.56 per cent affected by extreme or emergency category drought. The underground water level fluctuation in September 2022 shows normal levels/recharging (32 per cent) and 28 per cent showing vigilance (moderately low) water level, with 40 per cent low to very low water level or not recharging.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

The treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) covered all health centres (277) and hospitals (9) in the 10 affected districts in the south, as well as 28 mobile nutrition and health clinics. As a result, 34,803 children with SAM (17,053

¹ [Bulletin d'alerte sécheresse du Grand Sud de Madagascar - 2022 | UNICEF](#)

boys and 17,750 girls) were admitted in the CMAM programme, with 1,867 children with complications admitted into in-patient treatment, representing 33% of children in need. UNICEF purchased and distributed 69,700 Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food cartons, 16,343 therapeutic milk F75, and 5,883 therapeutic milk F100 - enough to treat 75,000 children with severe wasting - and continues to support the last miles distribution of those life-saving commodities. In August 2022, UNICEF supported the government in conducting the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Malnutrition (AMN) analysis for the southeast and southern regions. Two mass screenings were conducted in November 2022. In the 11 districts in the south, 533,994 children were screened (90% of coverage) and in the region Atsimo Atsinanana (5 districts), 166,719 children (81,534 boys and 84,888 girls) were screened amounting to 90,4% coverage.

UNICEF started supporting the early recovery phase through developing together with the Ministry of health and partners a 2 years post crisis nutrition response plan in the 3 regions hit by drought which aligned with the broader global and national plan of Global Action Plan for Wasting prevention and Treatment. Through that initiative UNICEF has partnered with the Paediatric Association of Madagascar to train over 200 clinician and health workers in quality treatment of children with complicated wasting.

Through the activated cluster coordination, UNICEF supported the information management, nutrition data analysis, communication on nutrition needs and field coordination focusing on South and South-East Madagascar. The nutrition cluster response was 67% funded.

WASH



© UNICEF December 2022



From November to December, UNICEF's emergency WASH interventions reached over 20,448 people (4339 women; 6 031 girls and 4 220 men; 5 912 boys) essentially through the distribution of hygiene kits, hygiene promotion, and water supply-water trucking. The beneficiaries included families with children suffering from SAM in the health and nutrition centres, and community members in the Anosy, Androy and Atsimo Andrefana regions.

During 2022, over 1,240,000 persons (278 656 women with 349 166 girls and 270 968 men with 342 227boys) benefited from WASH activities resulting in 100% coverage of the target population set by the WASH cluster (800 000). Most partners concentrated their interventions on the rehabilitation and construction of latrines, incinerators; hygiene kit distribution, water supply (water trucking, disinfection of wells, construction of emergency boreholes) and hygiene promotion.

Based on the cluster results (since January 2022), UNICEF's direct contribution reached over 1,029,763 people representing around 82 per cent of the cluster response.

Health

In response to drought and cyclone emergencies, UNICEF supported outreach activities to strengthen access to care for women and children through the deployment of advanced strategies and integrated mobile clinics. A total of 55 mobile clinics (25 in the southeast and 30 in the south) and 72 advanced strategies teams (in the southeast) were supported. These interventions enabled:

- 11,205 pregnant women and 6,546 newborns to receive maternal and neonatal care,
- 134,565 children to be treated for various childhood illnesses, including malaria, diarrhea, acute respiratory infection, and acute malnutrition.
- 34,450 children to be vaccinated against various vaccine-preventable diseases, including 7,277 zero-dose children.

The health system in the emergency areas was also strengthened in terms of equipment, rehabilitation of infrastructure, and the ongoing training of providers in skills that have a high impact on maternal and infant mortality.

- 2 hospitals and 34 basic health centers in the districts of the emergency zones were equipped ensuring that 100% of the basic health centers and referral hospitals have the necessary equipment to resuscitate newborns.
- 5 health centers destroyed by the cyclones were rehabilitated.

- 30 health centers have had their providers trained in the medical management of gender-based violence and cervical cancer.
- 2,636 community health workers were trained in integrated community case management (ICCM) to strengthen the community health platform and to serve as a relay for mobile clinics.

Education

In 2022, UNICEF worked to ensure the continuity of children's education in humanitarian situations in the southern and southeast regions of Madagascar. Since January, education interventions reached over 491,000 children and adolescents (247,000 girls) in the regions affected by drought and cyclone.



Credit : UNICEF/September 2022/Miarisoa ANDRINIAINA
 IEG Mahela students start the 2022-2023 school year after the post-cyclone emergency in a high-performance tent for school provided by UNICEF

The 2022 cyclone season was exceptionally harsh for the education sector. Madagascar was hit by 5 cyclones and storms that caused considerable damage to school infrastructure. Two very strong cyclone (Batsirai, and Emnati) generated the need for emergency post-disaster responses for about 233,900 students left with no access to education on the southeast coast of Madagascar.

To support the reopening of schools and the return of students, UNICEF initiated emergency first response interventions that reached 63,942 most affected children (including 31,748 girls) in 630 schools. These responses consisted of the installation of temporary learning spaces with prepositioned material (tarpaulins, tents) and distribution of school kits (school in box kits, recreation kits, early child development kits). UNICEF's first responses were followed by roof rehabilitation work for 150 classrooms to benefit 17,855 children (8,035 girls) in 60 schools. At the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year,

UNICEF supported vulnerable communities through the distribution of learning materials that reached a total of 187,507 students (including 88,674 girls) in 786 schools. UNICEF learning material distributions in the districts directly affected by drought-related food insecurity reached 115,000 children (including 62,100 girls) in 520 schools in the region of Atsimo Andrefana, 74,600 (including 38,300 girls) in 353 schools in Androy and 83,000 (including 43,600 girls) in 384 schools in Anosy.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Education, UNICEF supported the strengthening of regional authorities' capacity in education in emergency coordination. Training sessions for capacity building of 348 EIE/DRR (Education in Emergency/Disaster Risk Reduction) committee members was completed covering aspects of data collection, stock management, psychosocial support, PSEA modules.

Shock-Responsive Social Protection and Social Policy

From January to December 2022, UNICEF coordinated the activities of the Cash Working Group (CWG) in 15 regions of Madagascar as part of the drought and cyclone response. For the drought response, a total of 11 active members of the CWG planned a joint and coordinated response in 98 communes in three regions: Anosy, Atsimo Andrefana and Androy. At the beginning of the year, 199,000 households (1 million people) were targeted by the CWG, with fluctuations depending on the month and active members. Each month actors reached an average of 90% of the target despite difficulties encountered, such as the delay in payment due to the change of procedure at the level of certain organizations and the preparation related to the mobilization of funds. During the last month of the year 2022, there was an achievement rate of 95%: 138,900 households reached out of 145,600 households planned.

Concerning the response to the cyclone and flooding, 9 implementing actors, members of the CWG have planned a joint and coordinated response in 12 regions, 48 districts, 225 communes for three types of intervention: Unconditional Cash Transfer, Cash for Work and Cash for Shelter. 390,000 households were targeted by CWG members during 2022 for these three types of intervention and 241,000 households were supported during the last month of the intervention for the unconditional cash transfer only.

2022 was marked by the sharing of good practices and lessons learned among CWG members and by the updating of the operational manual on shock-adapted social protection.

The operational plan for responses related to the emergency cash transfer modality in the south for the current lean season (year 2023) is available after the planning done by the CWG members.

Child Protection

In 2022, UNICEF supported governmental and non-governmental partners to implement responses to minimize the impacts of nutritional and post-cyclone crises on children and women's mental health and protection in six affected regions (Analamanga, Vatovavy, Fitovinany, Anosy, Androy and Atsimo Andrefana). These responses included awareness-raising with the aim of preventing and promoting reporting of violence against children and GBV cases, victim's supports and psychological support to affected persons (actors, children and their families). To implement these responses, community actors (child protection networks, monitoring units, social workers, young peer educators, teachers and community volunteers) are trained on child protection and GBV including positive masculinity, life skills, psychosocial first aid with the support of UNICEF and partners.

As a result of the mobilization and intervention of these different actors, cumulatively in 2022, UNICEF reached 14,620 of the 13,000 targeted children (7 393 girls, 7,227 boys) with psychosocial support activities. 106,000 women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions were targeted for child protection response in 2022, we have exceeded these targets by reaching 125,249 women, girls and boys (50 203 women, 40 364 girls, 34 682 boys).

Furthermore, in the regions affected by cyclones Batsirai and Emnati, UNICEF supported the implementation of assessment missions under the leadership of BNGRC, OCHA and NGO partners (Save the Children and ADRA). UNICEF also participated in the updating of the national contingency plans, those of Sava region and the municipality of Antananarivo.



Child friendly space in Befotaka (Amboasary District)
Credit UNICEF/july 2022/Flora Rakotomahanina



Members of child protection networks in the district
of Mananjary and Nosy Varika, Credit ADRA/Nov 2022

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

Communication, Community Engagement and Social Mobilisation: During the year, SBC implemented interventions for the prevention and control of COVID-19, polio, plague and monkey pox as well preparations for cyclones/floods while sustaining responses to mitigate effects of drought. A total of 2,275,758 people (673,330 women, 685,574 men, 375,129 girls and 473,771 boys) were estimated to have been reached through community meetings, SMS messages, church sermons, interpersonal communication, and folk media which included puppetry and community drama performances. SBC interventions on COVID-19 contributed to a 90% reach to the population nationwide and increased people's intention to be vaccinated from 34% in October 2021 to 48% in February 2022.^[1]

418 community mobilisers (scouts, volunteers, standpipe operators), 137 religious' leaders (65 female, 72 male) were empowered with skills to promote family health practices around COVID-19, polio, WASH and nutrition sensitive practices. To amplify initiatives by religious and community mobilisers, 20 radio/TV stations broadcast COVID-19 messages and captured community and church-based initiatives.

To ensure strategic implementation, the SBC section supported the Ministry of Health and the department of emergencies to develop plans and preposition communication materials in preparation for cyclones/floods. Under the polio campaign, UNICEF consultants conducted social investigation to understand sociocultural issues to be used in district microplanning in preparation for the 2023 campaign. MCO, in collaboration with ESARO conducted research to further understand behavioural and social drivers for COVID-19 vaccination, routine immunisation and maternal/child health. The results will be used in 2023 to reprogram interventions alongside recommendations made by the CovDP team in October 2022.



Sensitisation during a church service followed by vaccination in Androy

Accountability to Affected Populations and Social Listening: Over 480,000 people were engaged in online and offline feedback mechanisms to ask questions, raise concerns and suggest ways of improving interventions in their area. The channels included SMS's and U-Report surveys, rapid assessments using traditional/conventional methodologies, suggestion boxes, radio feedback, and group discussions. Issues raised included inaccessibility of safe potable water, inadequate interpersonal communication in COVID-19 interventions, and the need for more information on polio, monkey pox, plague and HIV/AIDS. In addition to these mechanisms, UNICEF worked in collaboration with the World Food Program to put in place a common feedback mechanism that is receiving complaints on all programmatic areas and providing feedback through Focal Points from each section. The mechanism was initiated in December 2022.

[11](#) ATW Midline and Midline Surveys, October 2021 & February 2022

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

WASH and Nutrition clusters were officially activated on 7th December 2021. Websites are available for each cluster: the [Nutrition Cluster Dashboard](#), and the [WASH Cluster April 2022](#).

UNICEF has ensured that its interventions are in line with humanitarian leadership guided by the Humanitarian Country Team in close coordination with the government authorities including the National Office for Disaster Management (BNGRC). This coordination is relayed to the clusters where UNICEF is responsible for (Nutrition, WASH, Education, CWG). UNICEF's strategy aims at ensuring a nexus between its humanitarian and development interventions, at reinforcing partners' capacity in all elements of social systems (data, HR, planning, supply, advocacy) and in giving priority to "scale up" potentially innovative interventions.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

National Committee visits

The communication section supported the visits of six national committees as well as several media organizations such as The New York Times and Al Jazeera. In April, we had the visit of the Regional Director in the capital and the South to see the impact of UNICEF's interventions in the country. The Swiss, Danish, Dutch, and French national committees also visited Madagascar between August and October. The Swiss Natcom visit supported the work of a writer and photographer to report on the malnutrition situation in the south. The French Natcom included the water company Volvic and looked at projects supported by their funding in the Atsimo Andrefana region. The visit of Danish Natcom was accompanied by the international photographer Jan Grarup. A national photographer joined the mission, and his pictures are available [here](#). The focus of the visit was the situation in the southern of Madagascar.

Press Releases

UNICEF issued 15 press releases in 2022 highlighting our work and the support of donors. The situation in the south and southeast after the impact of cyclones generated a great deal of international media interest, with more than 30 remote interviews having been conducted.

UNICEF also raised awareness on combating all forms of discrimination including the protection of children living with albinism. The organization marked the international albinism awareness day and celebrated the World Children's Day on fighting for inclusion for every child.

Visit of UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Mirado

In August, the singer Mirado, who is a Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF Madagascar, accompanied a mission with journalists to the south of Madagascar to promote UNICEF interventions online. [Three videos were produced for WASH and Nutrition programmes](#) as part of a campaign with PFP.

External Media

UNICEF focused on four international medias visits to highlight the situation in the south and participated in many interviews and media reports after the cyclones. The communication section also organised five domestic press tours to highlight the reality in the south, allowing local media to learn about the interventions of UNICEF and its partners as well as the impacts of the emergency response. All UNICEF programmes were covered.

Videos and photos

- Video produced: 16
- Photo essay produced: 2

Human interest story and photo essay

We produced nine Human Interest Stories covering all the UNICEF Interventions.

Social media:

Communication on the situation in the drought-affected areas in the deep south and UNICEF's interventions:

- 106 Facebook posts; 1,280,584 people reached
- 91 Tweets; 106,022 impressions

Private Sector Partnership

A regional partnership with Airtel Africa was established to connect 15 schools in the regions of Boeny, Atsimo Andrefana and Anosy.

Another partnership with Airtel Madagascar was leveraged to grant free access to Internet of Good Things (IoGT), an educative website for youth, and to provide free SMS to support UNICEF advocacy. This partnership aims to reach about 2 million users of Airtel.

Contact for further information

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results (Reference HAC 2022)

Sector		Total needs	UNICEF and IPs Response			Cluster/Sector Response		
			2022 target	Total results	Change* ▲ ▼	2022 target	Total results	Change* ▲ ▼
Indicator	Disaggregation							
Health								
# people provided with access to essential and life-saving health care Services	female	169,000 (children)	169,000 (children)	68,628	▲	213,500	N/A	
	male			65,937	▲			
	women pregnant	31,000	31,000	11,205	▲	31,000		
Nutrition								
# of children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic treatment sites	girls	110,000	110,000	17,750	▲	110,000	17,750	▲
	boys			17,053	▲		17,053	▲
Child Protection								
# of children reached with psychosocial support	girls	13,000	13,000	7,393	▲	13,000	2,790	▲
	boys			7,227	▲		2,273	▲

# women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions	girls	106,000	106,000	40,364	▲	137,000	42,524	▲
	boys			34,682	▲		35,552	▲
	women			50,203	▲		5,498	▲
# people who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers	persons		261,000				TBD	
Education								
# Children Receiving learning materials	girls	440,000	440,000	261,400	▲	637,250	-	-
	boys			234,100	▲		-	-
WASH								
# of people who accessed the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	girls	800,000	500,000	287 915	▲	800,000	349 166	▲
	boys			287 165	▲		342 227	▲
	women			227 898	▲		278 656	▲
	men			226 785	▲		270 968	▲
SBC								
# Of people reached with access to services and behavioural change messages (through interpersonal communication activities)	girls	705,000*	705,000*	395,129	▲			
	boys	775,000**	775,000**	473,771	▲			
	women			673,330	▲			
	men			685,574	▲			
# People who transmit their feedbacks and questions through available mechanisms	girls	397,000	397,000	10,428	▲			
	boys			7,284	▲			
	women			16,842	▲			
	men			13,480	▲			
Social Protection								
# Households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and/or funding	Households	200,000 (households)	29,000	7,849	▲	240,000	379,895	▲

*Target SBC on cyclone and drought

** Target SBC on COVID and plague

Annex B

Funding Status

Reference: HAC 2022

Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal 19 December 2022)						
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available			Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	Total	\$	%
Nutrition	15,794,500	7,248,496	1,751,121	8,999,617	6,794,883	43%
Health	6,840,000	1,421,143	39,698	1,460,841	5,379,159	79%
WASH	9,895,000	2,531,249	1,381,921	3,913,170	5,981,830	60%

Education	2,284,000	869,389	303,007	1,172,396	1,111,604	49%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	1,702,000	1,077,365	180,938	1,258,303	443,697	26%
Cross sectoral (C4D, RCCE and AAP)	1,642,500	91,927	16,683	108,610	1,533,890	93%
Cash-based transfers	1,850,000	200,526	267,066	467,592	1,382,408	75%
Cross sectoral / Cluster coordination	-	797,252	241,713	1,038,965	-	0%
Total	40,008,000	14,237,347	4,182,146	18,419,493	22,627,472	57%