



A patronage nurse holds three-month-old baby Raul during a home visit in the Ganja, Azerbaijan.

UNICEF Europe and Central Asia Region (ECAR)

Humanitarian Situation
Report No. 2 - 2022

unicef
for every child

Reporting Period: 1 January to 31 December 2022

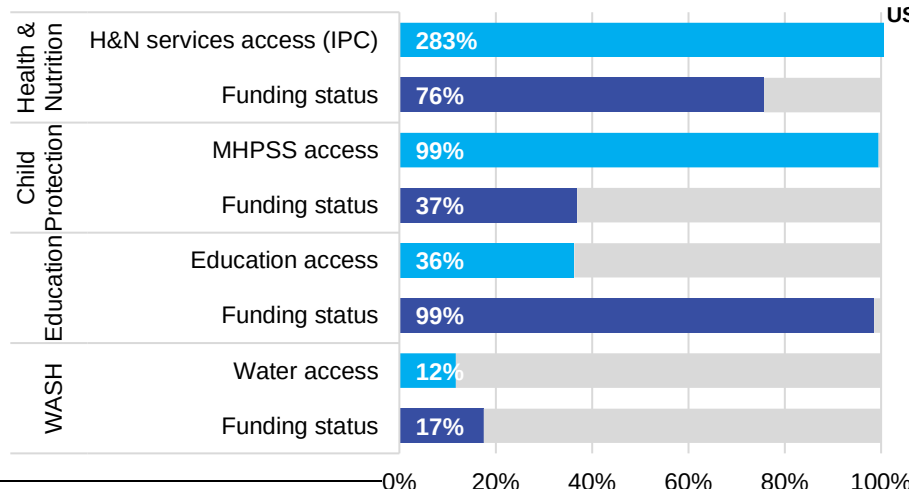
Highlights

UNICEF's work in Europe and Central Asia (ECA) Region covers 23 countries and territories¹.

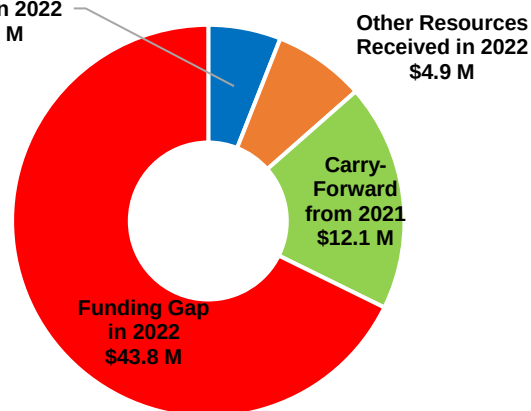
- In 2022, 15.8 million confirmed COVID-19 cases and 75,351 deaths were reported in ECAR, with a slight increase observed in July-August and December. Officially, Turkmenistan reported no confirmed cases.
- UNICEF's COVID-19 response focused on preventing transmission, mitigating the impacts on vulnerable children and families and addressing misinformation. This included strengthening systems, services and supply provision for nutrition, health, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), water, sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), education, social protection, risk communication and ensuring protection for at-risk children, adolescents and women.
- In 2022, disasters including floods, mudflows and civil unrest affected over 750,000 people in Central Asia, while deteriorating economic conditions, increasing political tensions and geostrategic realignments exacerbated risks in some countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus. UNICEF's response continued to focus on enhancing emergency preparedness capacities, strengthening risk-informed programming, including social protection mechanisms to build resilience, and supporting response to onset emergencies.
- In 2022, ECARO received US\$ 9.78 million against the US\$ 64.6 million Humanitarian Appeal for Children (HAC). With US\$ 12.1 million carried forward, the appeal was 32 percent funded by year end.

UNICEF progress in key areas

Summary Results and Funding Status



Humanitarian
Received in 2022
US\$3.9 M



Funding Requirement 2022
US\$ 64.3 million

¹ UNICEF has programmes in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, Kazakhstan, Kosovo*[*In line with UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR 1244)], Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan. The UNICEF Regional Office also undertakes work in Italy, in support of refugee and migrant populations.

² The Target for health was significantly exceeded, mostly due to the response in Georgia where youth hygiene clubs were established that reached a significant number of peers on IPC, significantly enhancing overall results achieved. In Child Protection, the responses were provided through online modality, which resulted in more people reached than initially planned, contributing to a significant over-achievement of targets. In Education, reopening of schools in face-to-face and blended mode cost more than anticipated, thus the target was underachieved in relation to funding required. Despite needs, WASH targets could unfortunately not be met due to significant underfunding.

Regional Funding Overview and Partnerships

For 2022, UNICEF's [Europe and Central Asia Region HAC Appeal](#) was close to US\$ 21million (32 percent) funded against an ask of US\$ 64.6 million - US\$ 58.6 million for COVID-19 response and US\$ 6 million for emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction (DRR) support. Generous, important contributions were received from the Akelius Foundation, Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the European Union (EU), the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCDO) of the United Kingdom, the Government of Japan, Global Thematic Humanitarian Funds, Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), UNICEF Country offices in Romania and Serbia, and UNICEF National Committees in France, Netherlands, Slovakia and Sweden. This enabled UNICEF to support children and families affected by COVID-19 and address immediate needs of those affected by emergencies like conflict, floods and landslides.

Regional Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

In 2022, 15.8 million confirmed COVID-19 cases and 75,351 deaths were reported in region.² In many countries the aftereffects of the pandemic on vulnerable children and families, particularly socio-economic and psychosocial, required continuous support for health, nutrition, routine immunisation, IPC and WASH services, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), blended learning and awareness on disease prevention.

Impacts of the war in Ukraine further compounded weakened socio-economic conditions of countries. Inflation increased the cost of rent and basic staples which, coupled with limited livelihood opportunities, eroded purchasing power and severely impacted vulnerable populations. The violent protest in Kazakhstan in January 2022, sparked by a sharp increase in price of liquid gas, led to a two-week state of emergency, followed by curfew and strict security measures, disrupting services including schools, affecting learning for around 500,000 children. In September, conflict along the border of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan led to destruction of houses, schools and health centers, and large-scale displacement, impacting over 250,000 people in affected areas.

In 2022, floods and mudflows affected nearly 1,000 households in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Torrential rains in April generated mudflows in Jizzakh province, Uzbekistan damaging settlements, arable lands and social facilities. Heavy rains in May 2022 induced mudflows and landslides in Osh, Jalal-Abad and Naryn provinces in Kyrgyzstan affecting homes, social infrastructures, roads, livestock and a school. Dust/sandstorms, and extreme weather were observed in Central Asia. Moreover, between June and July 2022, four devastating wildfires broke out in Greece and Türkiye, forcing people in affected towns to evacuate and destroying houses and forests.

Humanitarian preparedness efforts were scaled up to respond to refugee outflows as a result of the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Afghanistan. As of July 2022, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan were reported to be hosting nearly 26,000 Afghan people^{3,4}.

Regional Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination, and Strategy

UNICEF continued efforts to prevent and mitigate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, providing a multisectoral response for children and their families. UNICEF focused on strengthening systems and services to ensure continuity of health and nutrition services; enhance capacities of front-line health and social workers; enhance disease prevention capacities through training and supplies; scale up WASH facilities and supplies in schools and health care facilities; support quality education and early learning - online and in-person; support child protection services; prevent and respond to Gender-Based Violence (GBV); provide MHPSS for families and children; promote social protection services, including cash transfers for vulnerable families; facilitate risk communication and social behaviour change (SBC); and engage adolescents and young people. UNICEF ensured linkages between humanitarian and development programmes to enable more sustainable, resilient and child-sensitive systems.

At country level, UNICEF, coordinated closely with the World Health Organisation (WHO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), government and line ministries, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and civil society organisations (CSOs) to develop and implement strategic actions to build resilience and alleviate impacts of the pandemic and other emergencies. In cooperation with WHO and the Vaccine Alliance (GAVI), and other partners, UNICEF supported national coordination, providing technical support to governments in programme and communication strategies related to COVID-19 and other country-specific priorities. UNICEF worked with partners to assess impact of COVID-19 on the socio-economic situation, mental health and education of children and adolescents, generating evidence to inform policies and programmes. At the regional level, UNICEF continued to participate in coordination and technical groups covering supply and logistics, risk communication and demand generation.

UNICEF maintained a focus on enhancing capacity in emergency preparedness and response, strengthening risk-informed programming, emphasising child-centred, gender-responsive DRR, and implementing actions to mitigate impacts of climate change on children.

² WHO COVID-19 Dashboard <https://covid19.who.int/> for Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo*, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

³ [Situation Afghanistan situation \(unhcr.org\)](#)

⁴ The ECAR preparedness and response activities for Afghan refugees in Central Asia are covered under the [Afghanistan Outflow HAC 2022](#).

Summary of UNICEF's response in the region

Actions were undertaken under the ECA 2022 HAC appeal. These include UNICEF's response in **Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo*, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine⁵ and Uzbekistan**. Progress of UNICEF's COVID-19 vaccine roll-out in ECAR is reported separately under the dedicated global [ACT-A situation report](#).

Emergency Preparedness, Response and DRR: In partnership with International Federation of Red Crescent Society (IFRC) and Red Crescent Societies in Central Asia, UNICEF continued to enhance preparedness and DRR activities, which enabled countries to provide timely response to affected children and families in emergency situations.

In response to the floods, mudflows and landslides in Jizzakh region (**Uzbekistan**), and Osh, Jalal-Abad and Naryn regions (**Kyrgyzstan**), UNICEF in partnership with national governments and the Red Crescent Societies of **Uzbekistan** and **Kyrgyzstan** provided humanitarian support to 880 affected people, including 425 children. In response to impacts of the conflict along the border of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, 8,510 displaced people (3,923 male, 4,587 female) in Batken and Osh Provinces of **Kyrgyzstan** received family hygiene kits, while 4,200 conflict affected children from Batken and Leilek regions benefitted from educational and Early Childhood Development (ECD) kits provided to schools. UNICEF handed over 1,000 family hygiene kits to Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan (RCSK) to preposition in disaster prone areas. In **Tajikistan** 1,484 displaced children and women benefitted from Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) provided by through the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) with UNICEF support. 5,000 conflict affected/displaced people in Isfara and B. Gafurov districts received 1,100 family hygiene and dignity kits. UNICEF handed over WASH, education, child protection related supplies to cover the needs of approximately 1,000 people to RCST to preposition in disaster prone areas. Activation of contingency partnerships allowed UNICEF and RCST to put in place a GBV monitoring system and accountability to affected population (AAP) mechanism in collective centers during the acute phase of the crisis. In **Uzbekistan**, UNICEF continued replenishing and prepositioning emergency supplies (ECD kits, family hygiene kits, recreational kits, educational kits etc.) to cover the needs of over 4,000 people in disaster-prone areas. To enhance emergency preparedness in **Turkmenistan**, UNICEF entered a warehousing agreement with the National Red Crescent Society and prepositioned ECD and education supplies to reach 1,500 children.

UNICEF translated its [Core Commitments for Children | UNICEF](#) into Russian language, disseminated it to partners in Central Asia, and provided an orientation to 80 participants (government, non-government and UNICEF staff in the country offices), focused on WASH benchmarks and commitments within the framework of CCCs.

Country level preparedness was supported with dedicated training, simulations and development of operation emergency preparedness plans for Kazakhstan, Armenia and Azerbaijan Country Offices. The preparedness plans included, supply prepositioning, development of contingency partnership agreements, development of rosters for deployment of emergency human resources etc. to equip UNICEF offices with measures to provide timely response. UNICEF Armenia provided 20 generators, 20 First Aid kits, 500 blankets, 300 sleeping bags, 40 hygiene kits to affected communities in bordering settlement in Syunik and Gegharkunik region. In December, UNICEF Armenia provided school and ECD kits, school bags with learning materials and vouchers for warm clothing for approximately 300 school children and 600 preschool age children, who extended their stay in Armenia as a result of the situation in the Lachin corridor.

Nutrition: UNICEF continued strengthening dissemination of age-specific information promoting breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF). 636,682 primary caregivers of children (0-23 months) received counselling in **Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia and Tajikistan**.

In **Tajikistan**, 200 healthcare workers were trained on treating severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and over 12,696 children were treated with supplies procured by UNICEF. In **Uzbekistan**, 40,000 children benefited from a deworming programme which reduced prevalence of helminth infections from 12.6 to 1.7 per cent among children between 6 and 10 years. In **Tajikistan** and **Uzbekistan**, 1,686 healthcare workers improved their knowledge on IYCF. In **North Macedonia**, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) to collect data on the impact of pandemic-related lockdowns and school closures on children's diets, resulting in the introduction of food labeling to prevent overweight and obesity.

Health: To reduce impact of the pandemic on national health care systems, UNICEF supported national and local authorities to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and resume or sustain essential health services. UNICEF supported training for 28,712 healthcare facility staff and community health workers in infection prevention and control (IPC) in **Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Serbia, Tajikistan** and **Uzbekistan**. 63,594 caregivers and frontline professionals were provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in **Albania, Kosovo*, Moldova, North Macedonia, and Uzbekistan**.

To facilitate catch up on routine immunization, UNICEF supported the vaccination of 449,244 children between 6 and 59 months against measles in **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kosovo*, Moldova, and Turkmenistan**. After a measles outbreak in **Tajikistan**, UNICEF and WHO provided technical support to the MoH to reach 418,365 children (99

⁵ The response for the war in Ukraine is covered under the [2022 HAC appeal for Ukraine and Refugee Outflow](#)

per cent of the target group) with supplementary immunization activities. In **Kosovo***, UNICEF continued to support door-to-door campaigns to identify children who missed routine vaccination, reaching 3,156 and vaccinating 723 children.

UNICEF supported capacity building of 1,514 health professionals in telemedicine and remote counselling in **Georgia, North Macedonia and Serbia**. 3,626 health professionals were trained in immunization and communications in **Kazakhstan, Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia and Uzbekistan**. In **Georgia**, UNICEF supported onsite and online supervision (736 online, 207 on site) with rural doctors, benefitting 35,328 children. In **Moldova**, 700 specialists improved abilities in antenatal and perinatal care, and 440 specialists in obstetrical emergency services and neonatal resuscitation.

In **Kazakhstan**, through evidence-based advocacy and technical support from UNICEF, WHO, USAID, and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the MoH developed a national road map for immunization. In **North Macedonia**, UNICEF supported upgrade of the national electronic recording and reporting system “Moj termin” (My Appointment) to connect primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare services.

In **Albania**, efforts to support Afghan families and children reached 291 children and 16 pregnant women with health services, while 361 individuals participated in 12 health promotion sessions. A health center was established and equipped at the residence site of the Afghan population, in collaboration with Save the Children and the local authorities. In **North Macedonia**, UNICEF continued to support 130 Afghan evacuees with medical services and medication.

WASH: UNICEF continued to support children and their families with critical WASH supplies and reached 601,977 beneficiaries in **Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo*, Moldova, Serbia and Tajikistan**.

In **North Macedonia**, 80 mobile handwashing stations were delivered to 52 schools and 47 school staff were trained on hand washing and hygiene promotion, benefitting 8,260 students. In **Turkmenistan**, 215 schools were supported to conduct self-assessments of WASH conditions. In **Serbia**, an educational video game on good WASH practices for Roma and other preschool children was developed and made available to teachers.

In **Uzbekistan**, UNICEF improved WASH services in 20 healthcare facilities, benefiting 10,000 health care workers and 130,000 people, including 33,336 children and provided WASH training to 400 healthcare workers. In **Tajikistan**, WASH services in 18 healthcare facilities were built or rehabilitated, reaching 85,037 beneficiaries. In addition, 375,000 people benefitted from handwashing stations in 750 healthcare facilities.

In **Georgia**, UNICEF and partner Shalom Club Guria implemented a project to address the rights of safe drinking water for children in Guria region, where 69 per cent of household use contaminated water. 4,667 school and kindergarten students and staff as well as 146 patients and 415 hospital personnel benefited from the installment of water filtration systems.

Child Protection, GBV and PSEA: UNICEF supported 864,462 children with access to MHPSS, including through helplines, in **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan**. UNICEF supported 147,706 women, girls and boys in accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions in Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Tajikistan.

In **Albania**, UNICEF and partner ‘Nisma ARSIS’ provided access to protection, healthcare and PSS for 34 unaccompanied and separated children. UNICEF reached 79 children at risk of abuse with emergency response services and 386 children who came in contact with the police received specialized child protection support and immediate counselling in the police stations. 52 children and 15 adults were supported through emergency outreach services and 137 children received case management services. In **North Macedonia**, social work centres were supported during lockdowns to reach over 200 families, who received social protection services or referral by seven mobile teams with lawyers and social workers.

In **Serbia**, 25 national trainers and mentors were trained on MHPSS and started a large-scale accredited capacity building programme for over 150 specialists from the education, health, and social sectors. In partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and five cantonal ministries in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, UNICEF supported development of child safeguarding guidelines, referral mechanisms and safeguarding procedure trainings for Social Welfare and residential care institutions. In **North Macedonia**, 42 social work professionals were trained on foster care support and a data base and website for (potential) foster families was supported. In **Turkmenistan**, 30 professionals were trained on social work, referral procedures, and identification of child abuse cases in family and residential care settings. In **Uzbekistan**, in partnership with the State Committee for Family and Women’s Affairs, UNICEF trained community-based paraprofessional social workers from 200 communities on child protection case management.

UNICEF supported mental health platforms in **Serbia**, reaching 57,142 people with activities, webinars, and online counselling. In **Albania**, UNICEF supported the national helpline, developed a reporting platform and mobile application for a data repository and trained 900 parents and caregivers on online risks for children. In **North Macedonia**, UNICEF and UNHCR supported the establishment of a Digital Learning Platform for the social service workforce, offering online trainings for licensing processes. 100 families and their pre-school children benefited from the Mellow parenting programme.

In **Kazakhstan**, UNICEF and UN Women successfully advocated for introduction of a minimum age of consent for sexual relations and a provision on statutory rape in the Criminal Code, as part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence.

UNICEF collaborated with the Center for Combating Violent Extremism in **Albania** to provide immediate protection to women and children repatriated from Syria, offering PSS, case management, clothing, meals and access to hygiene items. In total, 37 persons (28 children and 9 women) are supported by UNICEF in a reintegration programme.

In **Albania**, 315 children and 356 adolescents from Afghanistan received psychosocial, recreational, creative and sport activities at child friendly spaces. 550 parents and caregivers were supported through culturally adapted activities. In total, 42 cultural mediators are engaged in this program and 341 children are assisted with individual case management support. In **North Macedonia**, UNICEF and NGO partners supported the government in providing services for 562 evacuated Afghan families in education, health and nutrition, child protection, social protection, and legal support. In total, 20 professionals were trained in child safeguarding, 280 refugees benefited from MHPSS, and 232 children benefitted from Child Friendly Spaces. In addition, 370 beneficiaries were provided with free legal advice and 170 received individual case work concerning resettlement applications, humanitarian residence and registration of newborn babies.

Education: with schools reopened, UNICEF focused on back to school and quality learning. UNICEF supported 1,800,488 children to access formal or non-formal education, including early learning, in **Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo*, North Macedonia, and Serbia**. UNICEF supported the provision of counseling and/or parenting support to 95,986 parents and caregivers of children under 5 in **Armenia, Kosovo*, Moldova, North Macedonia and Serbia**. In **Armenia, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan**, 54,403 schools were supported in implementing safe school protocols (infection, prevention and control). Additionally, 70,496 teachers were trained in delivering digital, distance and blended learning in **Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kosovo*, Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan**, while UNICEF also supported the development of learning content for television programmes and online learning platforms.

In **Kazakhstan**, UNICEF and the Education Foundation IQanat supported the development of a peer support approach to help children catch up with pandemic-related learning loss, which is being tested in 12 schools. In **Azerbaijan**, the learning recover programme reached 882 primary and secondary school students.

In **Azerbaijan**, over 2,000 teachers enhanced their capacities to support children's social and emotional learning and 200 school psychologists developed their competencies in Psychological First Aid. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) activities enhanced capacities of 1,003 teachers and 36,000 children with EORE knowledge and education materials.

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, UNICEF and UNESCO provided technical support to the government to develop a statement of commitment for the Transforming Education Summit and guidelines for online and blended Learning. In **North Macedonia**, UNICEF supported the government in developing a cross-sectoral Parenting Strategy and action plan as well as a concept for early intervention services focused on supporting children with disabilities and developmental delays.

In **Albania**, teachers from the Afghan community were trained to deliver non-formal education programmes to 369 children (50 per cent females). An assessment of this programme revealed that students showed progress in socio-emotional learning, literacy, and life skills. Two Day Care Centers provided services to 80 children, 124 sessions were conducted for 730 Afghani and Albanian parents (516 Female), and 300 preschool teachers were trained on how to work with children who were exposed to stress and trauma. In **North Macedonia**, 55 tablets and notebooks, and 55 headphones were procured to support Afghan children and adults to participate in English language courses, as classes had to be held online.

Social Protection and Cash Transfers: To address the economic impacts of COVID-19 and other emergencies, UNICEF continued to support governments in supporting the preparedness of social protection systems to deliver cash transfers and critical services to vulnerable populations. In 2022, UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding to reach 2,252,447 households with cash transfers through existing government systems in **Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, North Macedonia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan**. In **Serbia**, UNICEF continued its partnership with the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs (MoLEVSA) and the Red Cross to deliver multi-purpose humanitarian cash transfers to households with children, reaching 702 households (2,653 beneficiaries, including 1,580 children).

In **Kyrgyzstan**, UNICEF provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare and Migration (MoLSWM) to improve normative framework for humanitarian cash transfer and related humanitarian assistance with clear SOPs. Draft regulation and SOPs were developed and validated and are awaiting approval from the Cabinet of Ministers. In **Tajikistan**, UNICEF provided technical and financial support in designing and drafting a Social Protection Strategy, which is linking social protection with emergency preparedness and response and was endorsed by the Government.

In **Uzbekistan**, a programme on community-level social services was launched in 187 local communities to digitalize, and thus, streamline processes for needs assessments, social service planning, delivery, monitoring and case referral. The programme will be expanded to cover the whole country and complementing completed programmes on emergency cash transfers and shock responsive transfers.

SBC, Adolescent Development and Participation, Community Engagement, (AAP): UNICEF engaged 2,573,007 people in Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) in **Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo* and Tajikistan** through a variety of activities, including online and print media campaigns, targeted trainings, and youth engagement. UNICEF also reached 21,452,290 beneficiaries through messaging on prevention and

access to services in **Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo*, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.**

UNICEF supported social listening and media monitoring related to COVID-19 and routine vaccination in **Moldova, North Macedonia, Kyrgyzstan, Kosovo*** and **Uzbekistan.** UNICEF also supported the implementation of demand generation communication campaigns and events in **Albania, Moldova, North Macedonia, Kosovo*, Kazakhstan** with messages on the importance of COVID-19 and routine vaccinations and available services to get vaccinated.

In **Albania,** UNICEF supported the training of 134 social administrators in three municipalities, strengthening their communication skills and knowledge about COVID-19 risks, prevention, and vaccines. In **Moldova** and **North Macedonia,** UNICEF conducted capacity building trainings for journalists and journalism students on COVID-19 communication and fact checking. In **Kyrgyzstan,** UNICEF continued to build skills of adolescents on media literacy and to engage the affected population in identification of concerns and search for solutions, reaching about 110,000 people through online and offline media. In **Azerbaijan,** UNICEF supported the training of 500 trainers on interpersonal communication skills for immunization, who are expected to reach 50,000 health workers across the country with IPC training. To institutionalize the intervention, an 18-hour training module on IPC, promoting COVID-19 vaccination and routine immunization, became part of a mandatory course for health worker qualification enhancement.

In **Kazakhstan,** in partnership with National Volunteers Network, over 934 parents/caregivers and expecting parents were informed about childhood vaccination. In addition, educational sessions on immunization and management of children with diabetes after the COVID-19 infection were provided for targeted parents/caregivers. In **North Macedonia,** UNICEF launched the Bebo mobile application with critical information on parenting and so far over 7,000 users registered.

The summer camps organized by UNICEF in **Moldova** and **Kazakhstan,** reached over 1,000 children and youth, who learned about how to prevent COVID-19, safe online behavior, emotional health, and children's rights. In **Moldova,** UNICEF supported U-Report in informing over 10,000 users on relevant topics such as mental health, COVID-19 and distant learning, as well as launching interactive chatbots. In **Georgia,** UNICEF and the Civil Society Development Centre reached 4,050 adolescents with hygiene promotion activities against COVID-19, out of which 1,150 adolescents engaged in training and workshops on healthy lifestyle, peer education and team building.

Story from the Field

Strengthening children and young people's resilience to disaster and climate change in Tajikistan



Nuqra is leading the School Disaster Management Team at her school.

Askarova Nuqra (14) lives in the Shul village with her two siblings and parents. Since the beginning of 2022, Nuqra has led the School Disaster Management Team, a UNICEF-supported initiative in 12 schools in high-risk areas in Tajikistan. In close partnership, UNICEF and the Red Crescent Society are enhancing disaster risk and climate change resilience of Tajik children and youth through the child-centered 'Disaster Risk Reduction and School Safety' programme, funded by USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance.

"I am proud to be part of the School Disaster Management Team, because I'm helping my classmates, my family and my community to become more resilient to disasters and the climate change," shares Nuqra.

As a leader of the Team, Nuqra provides peer-to-peer training on DRR, Emergency Preparedness and Response and first aid to her peers. She also raises awareness on disaster preparedness in her local community. "My dream is to become a doctor in our village. I want to help local people by providing health services," says Nuqra. [Read the full story](#)

Human Interest Stories and External Media

- UNICEF BiH Press Release: [Donation of another 20 LCD devices to healthcare facilities and institutions in FBiH](#)
- UNICEF BiH Press Release: [The youth of Novi Travnik attended professional lecture on COVID-19](#)
- UNICEF BiH Press Release: [Breastfeeding is optimal for children's growth and development](#)
- UNICEF Azerbaijan Press Release: [Protecting communities with life-saving information](#)
- UNICEF Azerbaijan Press Release: [No one left behind after the pandemic](#)
- UNICEF Azerbaijan Press Release: [Initiative to kick start "Mine and Unexploded Ordnance Awareness" month](#)
- UNICEF Kazakhstan Press Release: ["Seven tons of PPE brought by UNICEF to Kazakhstan healthcare facilities"](#)
- UNICEF Kazakhstan Press Release: [Ideas of Young People Worthy of Adult Attention](#)
- UNICEF Georgia Press Release: [Integrating media literacy in formal education.](#)
- UNICEF Georgia Press Release: [Youth-led public health campaign launched with UNICEF and USAID support](#)

- UNICEF Georgia Press Release: [UNICEF and USAID review joint efforts to promote media literacy among young people in Georgia to address disinformation on COVID-19](#)
- UNICEF Georgia Press Release: [USAID and UNICEF review results for the partnership initiative to prevent and respond to COVID-19 in Georgia](#)
- UNICEF Georgia Press Release: [Educational Programme “Hygiene Protectors” was launched](#)
- UNICEF Uzbekistan Press Release: [Expanded access to inclusive education, social services and legal aid in the Surkhandarya region](#)

Who to contact for further information:

Afshan Khan
Regional Director
UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 90 95 502
Email: akhan@unicef.org

Philippe Cori
Deputy Regional Director
UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 90 95 503
Email: pcori@unicef.org

Annmarie Swai
Regional Advisor Emergency
UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 90 95 181
Email: aswai@unicef.org

Annex A: Summary of Selected Program Results (January to December 2022)

Areas of Response	2022 Target	Total UNICEF Results
Health		
# caregivers and frontline professionals (healthcare, social workers, teachers) provided with PPE	40,239	63,594 ⁱ
# children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities	343,600	106,056
# children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles	610,000	449,244
# healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in IPC	10,618	28,712 ⁱⁱ
Nutrition		
# primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling	887,000	636,682
WASH		
# children use safe, appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	273,800	32,060
# people reached with critical WASH supplies	667,530	604,977
Child Protection, GBV & PSEAⁱⁱⁱ		
# children [and caregivers] accessing MHPSS	869,200	864,462
# people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers	672,000	637,239
# women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	58,000	148,529
Education		
# children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	4,963,205	1,802,851
# parents/caregivers of children under 5 receiving ECD counseling and/or parenting support	186,500	95,986
# schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	43,155	54,403
# teachers trained in delivering digital, distance, and blended learning	62,900	70,496
Social Protection & Cash Transfers		
# households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding	462,000	2,252,447 ^{iv}
SBC, Community Engagement & Accountability		
# people engaged in RCCE actions	11,699,800	2,867,074
# people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	23,780,000	21,732,178

ⁱ⁾Target has been exceeded in Uzbekistan through the procurement of PPE for immunization staff to address increased need.

ⁱⁱ⁾Target has been exceeded in Georgia through the establishment of youth hygiene clubs who are reaching peers on IPC.

ⁱⁱⁱ⁾Target has been exceeded in Child Protection services with the use of online modality of intervention.

^{iv)}Target has been exceeded in Uzbekistan as children in low-income families received one-off cash transfer to protect them from the shock caused by the liberalisation of prices of wheat and flour in May 2022.

.In 2022, some results remained low against targets due to limited funding received as well as changes in COVID-19-related needs as the situation normalized and many national measures and restrictions were lifted during the second quarter.

Annex B: 2022 Funding Status (in USD)

Sector	Requirements	Humanitarian Resources Received	Other Resources Received	Carry-Forward from 2021	Funds available	Funding Gap (%)
Nutrition	4,150,880	0	0	85,810	85,810	98%
Health	11,751,800	0	1,452,689	3,323,566	4,776,255	59%
WASH	9,791,000	474,147	55,000	577,322	1,106,469	89%
Child Protection, GBV, PSEA	7,250,000	759,613	327,839	1,391,445	2,478,897	66%
Education	8,409,000	1,220,940	1,926,396	3,072,659	6,219,995	26%
Cross Sectoral (SBC, AAP)	9,940,000	100,000	186,167	1,806,611	2,092,778	79%
Social Protection	7,339,000	513,754	701,586	737,600	1,952,940	73%
Preparedness, Response, DRR	5,350,000	532,071	220,439	738,629	1,491,139	72%
RO Technical Support	650,000	268,540	0	381,460	650,000	0%
Total	64,631,680	3,869,064	4,870,116	12,115,102	20,854,282	68%