



Somalia

Humanitarian Situation Report

REPORTING PERIOD: January - December 2019

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- UNICEF supported nutrition facilities reached 192,766 children under five years affected by severe wasting (58 per cent girls) between January and December 2019 (108 per cent of the national SAM burden and 148 per cent of UNICEF target).
- UNICEF supported construction of 3,712 new latrines, mostly in internally displaced people (IDP) camps and rehabilitation of others to reach 123,916 people with access to gender sensitive sanitation.
- Improved monitoring and reporting systems on grave violations against children verified and documented grave violations affecting 2,959 children (523 girls and 2436 boys) between January-December 2019.
- UNICEF continued to support inclusive access to learning and retention of boys and girls in schools through provision of safe and protective learning environments. A total of 68,117 (31,533 girls) crisis affected children accessed education opportunities with UNICEF education in emergency (EiE) support in Somalia.
- UNICEF and partners provided 621,465 people (63 per cent of the target) with life-saving health services, this included 320,026 under-5 children and 179,376 women.

4.2 million

People in need of humanitarian assistance (2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview)

903,100

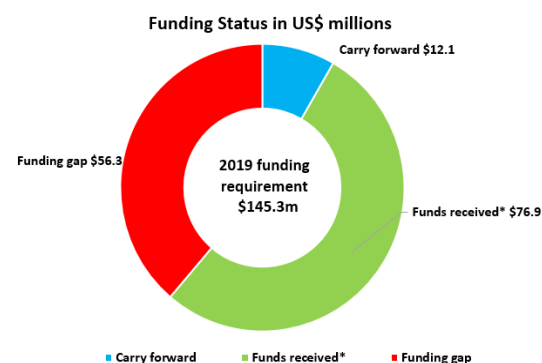
Estimated children under-5 years likely to face acute malnutrition in 2019, including 138,200 children with SAM (FSNAU 2018 post-Deyr assessment)

3 million

Children estimated to be out of school (2019 Humanitarian Action for Children)

2.6 million

People internally displaced throughout Somalia



UNICEF's Response with Partners

	UNICEF and partners			Cluster		
	UNICEF Target	Total Results	Target achieved	Cluster Target	Total Results	Target achieved
Nutrition: # of children 6-59 months admitted for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)	130,196	192,766	148%	178,000	246,143	138.3%
Health: # of crisis affected people with adequate access to PHC services provided with emergency life-saving health services	974,400	621,465	63%			
WASH: # of emergency affected people accessing temporary safe water services for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	950,000	827,118	87.1%	2,092,167	1,269,451	60.7%
Education: # of children and youth accessing formal or non-formal primary education (boys/girls)	165,000	68,177	41.3% ¹	330,068	181,849	55.1%
Child Protection: # of children participating in community-based psychosocial support activities including child friendly spaces (boys/girls)	120,000	6137	5.1%	250,000	178,526	71.4%
Cash-based Transfers: # of households with children under 5 years diagnosed with SAM and admitted for treatment receiving monthly cash transfers to support access to basic services	30,062	1199	3.9%			

1 A carry over grant from 2018 provided support to 20,868 children in education in emergencies interventions.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Throughout 2019, Somalia was faced with drought followed by flooding, the impact of which combined with the continuing conflict affected-areas created challenges for the most vulnerable groups of children, women and men. Over 665,000 people were displaced between January and October. The majority of people (363,000) were displaced in October due to the flooding which occurred during the *Deyr* season in Belet Weyne district in Hiraan being most affected. Forcible evictions of internally displaced people (IDPs) continued with over 220,000 people displaced from January to October.²

General acute malnutrition (GAM) is above the 15 per cent threshold in 10 of the 33 areas which experienced below average rainfall in 2019. Up to 178,000 children are expected to be impacted by severe acute malnutrition (SAM) between July 2019 and June 2020. Adding to these challenges was the presence at the end of 2019 of locusts infesting the countryside and destroying crops. As a result, it is expected in 2020 that up to 2.1 million people are expected to face food consumption gaps with 6.3 million facing acute food insecurity.³

With Central South Somalia particularly badly hit by the environmental shocks, UNICEF maintained a robust emergency response in 2019 and reached thousands of vulnerable and most needy children and women with different lifesaving interventions. This was done in part by supporting the health systems and supporting access to safe water and proper sanitation and protective environments, especially for the IDPs, which are limited. There is a need to keep the momentum and sustain lifesaving interventions throughout the country. Boys and girls continue to endure multiple protection risks and violations of their rights including family separation, GBV, physical abuse, psychosocial distress, child labour, wide spread recruitment and use of children by armed groups, forced displacement, limited access to humanitarian assistance due to insecurity and/or discriminatory practices and exploitation.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF is an active member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and participates in the Inter-Cluster Working Group, which leads strategic and cross-sectoral coordination of humanitarian programmes. UNICEF is also an active member of the Civil-Military Working Group and HCT Access Task Force. UNICEF and partners engage with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) on strengthening collaboration mechanisms for humanitarian response.

UNICEF continues to lead the WASH and Nutrition Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility and co-leads the Education Cluster with Save the Children. The operational capacity of the UNICEF-led Clusters is significant, with a network of over 240 partners, including sub-regional coordinators in over 15 regions. The network facilitates access to information, coordination and interventions in hard-to-reach and inaccessible areas. UNICEF and the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters, as well as the Child Protection sub-cluster, are active members of the inter-agency Disaster Operations Coordination Centre (DOCC) in Mogadishu. UNICEF has also supported gender capacity strengthening through multiple training sessions for Clusters to ensure the drought preparedness and response is gender-responsive and inclusive, including access to gender-based violence (GBV) services and psychosocial support to separated or unaccompanied children.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF's ongoing humanitarian action focuses on an integrated, inclusive, and multi-sectoral response to residual drought impact, displacement, conflict, disease outbreaks and seasonal floods. In line with the 2019 Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), as well as the HCT Centrality of Protection Strategy, UNICEF's priorities are to provide life-saving services to address critical malnutrition and excess mortality, effectively respond to mounting protection threats, and support resilience building and early recovery. UNICEF is also committed to implementing gender-responsive and socially inclusive humanitarian action to ensure those most in need receive the right life-saving services.

UNICEF is maintaining critical service provision in the highest need areas, procuring life-saving supplies and continually looking to expand partnerships and coverage in hard-to-access areas.⁴ Life-saving programme integration prioritizes nutrition, health and WASH services, complemented with child protection, including GBV, and education in emergencies. UNICEF maintains key leadership roles in support of humanitarian coordination, as well as active participation in other

² 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview, OCHA, December 2019

³ 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview, OCHA, December 2019

⁴ Priority regions are Bay, Bakool, Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Galgaduud, Mudug, Sanaag, Sool, Bari and Nugaal given the high malnutrition rates.

crucial strategic forums. Humanitarian interventions are closely coordinated with relevant ministries, disaster management agencies and clusters and delivered through most local partners.

Where possible, UNICEF is responding jointly with the World Food Program (WFP) through an augmented response package, including the integrated treatment of acute malnutrition and joint humanitarian cash interventions. In line with Grand Bargain commitments, UNICEF made a strong commitment to cash-based assistance, which is being prioritized where appropriate though it is currently facing important funding shortfalls. UNICEF is also working towards integrated access to social services in the Somalia Resilience and Recovery Framework (RRF), informing humanitarian integration and contributing towards longer-term, shared outcomes and resilience building, in line with the New Way of Working (NWOW) commitments.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition



UNICEF's curative, promotive and preventive services were at the core of the humanitarian response throughout 2019, against a backdrop of persistently high GAM in many parts of the country, exacerbated by floods and drought conditions. The 2019 Deyr assessment results indicate deterioration of the nutrition situation in more than half of the IDP settlements assessed. UNICEF-supported nutrition facilities reached 192,766 children under five years affected by severe wasting (58 per cent girls) between January and December 2019 - 108 per cent of the national SAM burden and 148 per cent of the UNICEF target. This points to SAM burden underestimation related to low population estimates for Somalia and underestimated GAM in inaccessible areas. Key preventive services included: 189,081 children (six to 23 months) provided with micronutrient powders, 618,184 pregnant and lactating women received Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling whilst 172,357 vitamin A doses were provided to children (six to 59 months). Moving forward, strengthening the provision of comprehensive nutrition services will be key as this will ensure optimal programme performance and coverage, and strengthen the preventive component of the programme: reports show that districts which reported recovery rates that did not meet the recommended standards also reported no IYCF counselling or training of community nutrition workers.

Health



In crisis affected areas, UNICEF and partners provided 621,465 people (63 per cent of the target), with life-saving health services; this included 320,026 children under five and 179,376 women. Whilst 8,118 persons (3,767 children under five) were treated for malaria, 414,040 long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs) were distributed. These interventions were delivered from health facilities or integrated mobile and outreach teams in emergency affected areas to IDPs, host communities, nomads and other disadvantaged populations. There were 2,726 cholera cases, with most occurring in Banadir. This represents a 60 per cent decrease from the 6,761 cases reported in 2018. UNICEF supported an oral cholera vaccination campaign that reached 621,875 people (96.7 per cent of the target population). Essential medicines and supplies to cover additional needs of 62,500 people were also prepositioned in seven high-risk outbreak areas.

Among the 4,099 suspected measles cases (78 per cent were children under five), the central south regions accounted for most of the caseload (81 per cent). As a preventative measure, in March, in the most affected districts, 796,134 children (aged six-59 months) received a measles vaccination. In November, as part of the first national integrated measles, polio (bOPV) and Vitamin A supplementation campaign, 918,338 children and 825,654 children were vaccinated against polio and measles respectively, while 820,052 children were supplemented with Vitamin A and 497,663 children were dewormed. Nationwide, 2.4 million children are targeted, and the remainder will be vaccinated in Q1 2020.

Overall, continued challenges experienced were inaccessibility to conflict-affected and disputed areas as well as administrative constraints between the Federal Ministry of Health and local authorities.

WASH



In 2019, UNICEF continued to provide lifesaving interventions to vulnerable people in Somalia. In emergency water provision, which includes water trucking and water source chlorination, 827,117 people were reached mainly during drought and flooding emergencies response. The delayed *Gu'* rains and worsening drought conditions in many parts of Somalia—particularly in the north, north-east and central-south regions—had significant areas classified as IPC Phase 4 emergency. UNICEF scaled up the provision of emergency water during the drought and continued to provide emergency access to clean water during the ongoing flooding response including chlorination of water sources to mitigate acute watery diarrhea in south-central Somalia. As drought severity and

frequency continue to impact vulnerable populations in Somalia, UNICEF is supporting reliable water sources for communities through rehabilitation, upgrading and new constructions of water sources. Two new water supply systems in Wajaale and Erigavo water supply systems in Somaliland and the Armo urban water supply in Puntland significantly improved access to reliable sources benefitting 302,960 people including 183,564 children. In emergency sanitation, UNICEF supported construction of 3,712 new latrines, mostly in IDP camps, and rehabilitated others to reach 123,916 people (75,076 children) with access to gender sensitive sanitation. Hygiene kits distribution and messaging reached 926,625 people.

Education



UNICEF Education response focused on prioritizing education support for displaced and vulnerable non-displaced children affected by conflict and natural disasters. UNICEF supported inclusive access to learning and retention of boys and girls through provision of safe and protective learning environments. In 2019, 68,117 (31,533 girls) children accessed education opportunities with UNICEF support in Somalia.

The Education – Child Protection Response Framework was developed in 2019 to improve safe and supportive learning environment with access to protection services that will reduce vulnerabilities and strengthen the safety of the most vulnerable and marginalized girls and boys and those at risk of exclusion. Learning material for 30,789 (14,149 girls) children were distributed and 798 (242 female) teachers were trained on pedagogical skills, class management and psycho-social support. Gender responsive facilities in 180 classrooms were rehabilitated supporting 9,000 (3,600 girls) children with an improved learning environment. A total of 626 (224 female) Community Education Committee (CEC) members were trained on school governance. Safe drinking water was provided to 68,117 (31,533 girls) children.

Child-to-Child (CTC) training was provided to 48 (10 female) teachers to help them support the CTC clubs in their respective schools. The CTC approach encourages peer to peer support among the children, encouraging problem solving and targeting them as change agents, while building leadership skills. Hygiene promotion messages were promoted through these clubs which aimed to contribute to improved children wellbeing and improve sanitation and hygiene behavior.

Child Protection



During the reporting year, a total of 191,271 people benefitted from the UNICEF-supported programme. They include: 68,349 people (25,998 girls, 7,473 women) accessed psychosocial support; 8,065 (3,637 girls) separated and unaccompanied children, including those on the move, were identified and documented; 28,001 people (8,934 girls, 5,229 women) benefitted from community and school-based mine risk awareness; and 4,730 people (1,611 girls and 2,522 women) accessed GBV response services. A total of 1,315 children formerly associated with armed forces and groups (including 273 girls) and another 252 vulnerable children (116 girls) are under the care of UNICEF-supported reintegration programs.

Through an improved system for monitoring and reporting grave violations against children, the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) verified and documented grave violations affecting 2,364 children (523 girls and 2,436 boys) between January-December 2019. Abductions and child recruitment account for at least 80 per cent of violations, and they affect more boys than girls because armed group prefer boys as fighters.

The Communities Care Programme was successfully scaled up to 11 sites in 2019 throughout Somalia in 2019. A total of 226,301 community members (89,571 women, 38,043 girls, 28,532 boys and 70,355 men) were reached through community dialogue to prevent child marriage, violence against children and women, and female genital mutilation/cut.

Cash-Based Programming



The humanitarian cash programme had a delayed start in 2019 due to operational factors. Once the programme commenced in October, registrations were able to begin targeting households of children under five years of age who were diagnosed with SAM. In November and December multipurpose cash payments were dispersed to 1,199 households covering three months of cash assistance (at US\$ 20 per month).

Media and External Communication

In 2019, the UNICEF Communication Section produced high-quality multimedia content to raise awareness on the impact of UNICEF's programmatic response to improve the lives of Somali children and women. Communication also focused on the impact of the drought and the floods and news coverage included articles in the [Irish Times](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [Xinhua](#) and NPR. Donor branded social media content was produced to enhance donor visibility and demonstrate results. High-level joint donor trips were also undertaken throughout the year to showcase programming for advocacy and fundraising.

Overall, the number of followers increased across all UNICEF Somalia's social media platforms (Twitter: 74,000, Facebook 143,000 and Instagram 7,000), reaching 225,000 followers. The number of posts and tweets as well as engagement (including likes, shares, comments, and reactions) across channels also increased. The Communication Section continued to work closely with the Government and UN agencies to raise awareness on challenges and highlight solutions to promote the development of the country. This included supporting the Office of the Prime Minister in hosting a high-level side event on critical investments in water resources which was chaired by the Prime Minister and broadcast live by Somali TV stations.

Funding

In 2019, UNICEF appealed for **US\$ 145.3** million to sustain provision of life-saving services including critical nutrition, health, WASH, child protection and education in emergency interventions, as well as cash-based assistance for women and children in Somalia. Continued predictable, flexible and timely donor support is critical to sustaining vital response activities and preventing further deterioration of the situation. At the end of 2019 and with thanks to generous contributions from DFID, USAID/OFDA, ECHO, the Government of Germany and other donors, including US\$ 3.8 million from UNICEF's global humanitarian thematic funding, UNICEF Somalia had a remaining funding gap of 39 per cent. The contributions made in 2019 enabled UNICEF and partners to ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance at scale as a result of droughts, floods and conflict.

Funding Requirements (as defined in the 2019 Humanitarian Appeal)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements*	Funds available**		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	US\$	%
Health	30,348,000	12,034,765	2,223,901	16,089,334	53%
Nutrition	24,701,325	24,982,822	4,988,484	-	-
Education	19,702,980	5,466,086	604,861	13,632,033	69%
WASH	35,830,088	22,260,191	2,663,702	10,906,195	30%
Child Protection	18,922,791	10,593,571	1,116,658	7,212,562	38%
Cash-based response	15,820,434	1,549,141	507,041	13,764,252	87%
Total	145,325,618	76,886,575	12,104,647	56,334,397	39%

* Cluster coordination requirements were included in sub-costs for the nutrition, WASH, child protection and education sectors.

**'Funds available' includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year.

UNICEF humanitarian programmes also benefit from resilience funding generously contributed by multiple different donors, including resources helping UNICEF contribute towards both humanitarian efforts and interventions at the nexus between humanitarian and development action for children. Received from Global Thematic through ESARO US\$ 369,263.40 in support of nutrition emergencies.

Next SitRep: 20 February 2020

UNICEF Somalia Crisis: <https://www.unicef.org/somalia>

UNICEF Somalia Crisis Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicefsomalia

UNICEF Somalia Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/somalia.html>

Who to contact for further information:

Werner Schultink, PhD
Representative
UNICEF Somalia
Email: wschultink@unicef.org

Jesper Moller
Deputy Representative
UNICEF Somalia
Email: jmoller@unicef.org

Sara Karimbhoy
Emergency Manager
UNICEF Somalia
Email: skarimbhoy@unicef.org

Annex A: SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

	UNICEF and IPs			Cluster Response		
	2019 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▼	2019 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE						
# of emergency affected people accessing temporary safe water services for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	950,000 (285,000 G 285,000 B 199,500 W 180,500 M)	827,118 (245,654G 255,496B 173,158W 152,810 M)	32,000	2,092,167	1,269,451 (698,198 W 571,253 M)	127,862 ▲
# people accessing appropriate sanitation facilities	420,000 (126,000 G 126,000 B 88,200 W 79,800 M)	123,915 (36,803G 38,277B 25,942W 22,893M)	5,100 ▲	1,092,456	365,173 (200,845W 164,328 M)	28,418 ▲
# of people in targeted settlements and communities practicing hand washing with soap at critical moments	1,500,000 (285,000 G 285,000 B 315,000 W 288,000 M)	926,625 (275,208G 286,234B 193,989W 171,194M)	29,450 ▲	2,213,140	1,629,537 (896,245 W 733,292 M)	99,980 ▲
# of people in targeted settlements and communities having their main source of drinking water located at less than 500 meters from the household and a queuing time less than 30 minutes.	464,000 (139,200 G 139,200 B 97,440 W 88,160 M)	621,021 (184,443G 191,833B 130,011W 114,734 M)	17,035 ▲	1,176,491	See footnote ⁵	N/A
# of people in targeted settlements and communities with access to sustainable safe water service	340,000 (102,000 G 102,000 B 71,400 W 64,600 M)	302,961 (89,979G 93,585B 63,425W 55,972M)	16,975 ▲	889,357	684,648 (376,556 W 308,092 M)	35,609 ▲
EDUCATION						
# children and youth accessing formal or non-formal primary education (boys/girls)	165,000 (92,400 G 72,600 B)	68,177 (31533G 36,644 B)	5,520 ▲	330,068	181,849 (82,842G 99,007 B)	9,605 ▲
# teachers supported with emergency incentives	300 (60 W 240 M)	798 (242 W 556 M)	0	5,000	5,096 (1,794W 3,302 M)	414 ▲
# of school children benefitting from emergency teaching materials (M/F)	165,000 (92,400 G 72,600 B)	30,789 (14,149G 16,640 B)	4,800 ▲	330,068	129,442 (60,792 G 68,650B)	16,927 ▲
# of classrooms constructed or rehabilitated with child friendly and inclusive WASH facilities available to emergency-affected children and youth	120	180	49 ▲	3,300	543	76 ▲
HEALTH						
# of crisis affected people with adequate access to PHC services provided with emergency life-saving health services	974,400	621,465	40,980 ▲			
# of emergency-affected pregnant woman received delivery services by skilled birth attendants	48,720	28,545	2,099 ▲			
# of children under 1 year received Penta3 vaccine	81,600	61,864	7,678 ▲			
% of communicable diseases outbreaks investigated and responded to in the first 96 hrs	90%	N/A	N/A			
NUTRITION						
# of children 6-59 months admitted for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)	130,196	192,766 (111,309G 81,457B)	26,946 ▲	178,000 (150,221 G 27,313 B)	246,143 (145,224G 100,919B)	22,975 ▲
# of children with acute malnutrition treated	164,676 ⁶	217,766 (125,809G 91,957B)	27,683 ▲	648,000 (548,222 G 409,715 B)	629,049 (371,139G 257,910B)	72,651 ▲
% of children under-5 with SAM admitted in therapeutic feeding programme discharged cured	≥ 75	94.30%	0.10% ▲	≥ 75	89.80%	0.90% ▲
# of OTP sites stocked out of RUTF	≤ 2%	6%	0.8% ▲			
# of pregnant and lactating women receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	513,000	618,184	94,687 ▲			
CHILD PROTECTION						
# of children participating in community-based psychosocial support activities including in child friendly space (boys/girls)	120,000 (54,000 G 54,000 B 6,000 W 6,000 M)	68,349 (25,998G 30,825B 7473 W 4053 M)	6,237 ▲	250,000	178,526 (71,029G 79,899B 22,734W 4,864M)	6,311 ▲
# of registered unaccompanied and separated children supported with reunification services, family-based care or appropriate alternative (boys/girls)	10,000 (3,500 G 6,500 B)	8,065 (3637G 4428B)	1,086 ▲	15,000	8,405 (3,967G 4,438 B)	1,301 ▲

⁵ Partner reports are currently being collated and results will be reported in future updates.

⁶ This includes the treatment of 130,196 children under-5 years with SAM and 34,480 children under-5 years with MAM through Extended Admission Criteria (EAC) with exemption circumstances when access is an issue and integration is lacking.

	UNICEF and IPs			Cluster Response		
	2019 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2019 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲ ▼
# of survivors of gender-based violence receiving clinical care, case management, psychosocial support, legal assistance and safe house support	10,000 (400 G 600 B 4,000 W 5,000 M)	4,730 (1611G 285 B 2522W 312M)	357 ▲			
# of girls and boys formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups provided with reintegration support	3,000 (940 G 2,060 B)	1,315 (273 G 1042 B)	3 ▲			
# of individuals targeted with rights-based public outreach and awareness raising activities	250,000 (99,500 G 99,500 B 26,000 W 25,000 M)	191,271 (47,276 G 52,017 B 52,865W 39,113 M)	14,808 ▲	400,000	331,457 (99,687G 105,434B 74,241W 52,343M)	83,000 ▲
CASH TRANSFERS						
# of households with children under 5 years diagnosed with SAM and admitted for treatment receiving monthly cash transfers to support access to basic services	30,062	1199	592 ▲			