

Two-year old Nyanam previously suffered from malnutrition and, having recovered, has since been enrolled in UNICEF's early childhood development programme. M.Naftain/UNICEF



APRIL 2019: SOUTH SUDAN SITREP #132

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- A total of 61 children (28 boys; 33 girls) have been reunified with their primary care giver in April, contributing to reaching the milestone of 6,000 unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregivers by UNICEF and partners since the beginning of the conflict in 2013.
- Back to Learning initiative campaigns were launched at locations throughout the country, including Pibor, Yambio, Wau and Malakal. High-level mobilization efforts such as these helped to increase primary school enrolment by 163,045 learners, including 32,368 girls, over the past month.
- Measles outbreaks continues to be reported throughout the country. As of end of April, a total of 986 cases, including six deaths have been reported, resulting in a case fatality rate of 0.6 per cent in 11 counties and three Protection of Civilian sites (PoCs).

1.83 million

Internally displaced persons (IDPs)
(OCHA South Sudan Humanitarian Snapshot, April 2019)

2.30 million

South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries
(UNHCR Regional Portal, South Sudan Situation 30 April 2019)

6.45 million

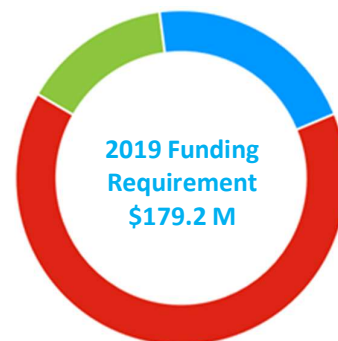
South Sudanese facing severe food insecurity
(February-April 2019 Projection, Integrated Food Security Phase Classification)

UNICEF's Response with Partners in 2019

Indicators	Cluster for 2019		UNICEF and partners for 2019		
	Target	Cumulative results (#)	Target	Cumulative results (#)	Target achieved (%)
Nutrition: # of children aged 6 to 59 months admitted for SAM treatment	220,700	82,253	220,700	82,253	37.3%
Health: # of children 6 months-15 years in humanitarian situations vaccinated for measles			475,000	212,044	44.6%
WASH: # people accessing the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	3,000,000	849,873	800,000	383,807	48.0%
Child Protection: # of children reached with psychosocial support services	476,750	102,240	275,000	53,560	19.5%
Education: # of children accessing quality formal or non-formal early learning, pre-primary, primary or secondary education	786,324	523,968	729,000	435,512	59.7%

Funding Status

Carry-over from 2018: USD 26,142,536
Funds received: USD 39,673,676



Funding gap: USD 113,414,288

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Similar to previous months, there remained a largely conducive environment for humanitarian access in April. UNICEF and partners were able to maintain consistent and secure access in lower Unity, Western Bahr el Ghazal and Western Equatoria states, all previous hotspots with limited access in 2018. UNICEF and partners have taken advantage of the improved operating environment, including participating in the first road mission to Leer and leading an assessment in northern Yambio county, both of which had not been possible since 2016, and expanding outreach services to an estimated 20,000 displaced people in Greater Baggari. Fewer fees and taxes are also being collected at checkpoints along main supply routes, helping to reduce operating costs and facilitating the dry season prepositioning of supplies in field locations.

At the same time, UNICEF and partners continue to face a range of challenges to maintaining principled and secure access to women and children in South Sudan. While fighting in southern Central Equatoria state has decreased in April over previous months, unpredictable clashes, insecurity along the roads and the multiplicity of armed actors continue to limit access outside of Yei town, impeding UNICEF's ability to assist an estimated 15,000 IDPs in Otego and Lujulo payams and undertake EVD preparedness activities. Fighting and insecurity have also limited access around Mundri and Maridi, in Western Equatoria. Both government and opposition authorities also continue to impose bureaucratic restrictions and interfere in humanitarian action, including by requesting additional taxes and fees, interfering in recruitment processes, harassing staff and confiscating humanitarian assets. Criminality, particularly along the roads, also remains a concern, with several incidents of road side robberies of UNICEF cargo transporters and implementing partners recorded in April alone.

According to the January 2019 integrated food security phase classification (IPC) projections for February to April 2019, the total number of people in crisis (IPC phase 3) acute food insecurity or worse is projected to 6.5 million people or 57 per cent of the population. Out of this total, 45,000 are projected to be in IPC phase 5. In 2019, about 860,000 children under five are estimated to be acutely malnourished including 259,000 of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). To reach 2019 targets and be ready to respond for first semester 2020, UNICEF Nutrition Programme need to mobilize US\$ 42 million before September 2019 for procurement of Ready-To-Use Therapeutic food (RUTF) and frontline cost of the programme. There is a risk of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) pipeline break in the last quarter of 2019 if UNICEF fails to mobilize adequate resources before September 2019. UNICEF appeals for donor support to avoid pipeline break for this life saving nutrition intervention.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF is co-leading three clusters and one Area of Responsibility (AoR) out of a total of 10 Clusters and three AoRs currently active in South Sudan. UNICEF co-leads at national level both the Child Protection AoR and the Education Cluster with Save the Children, the Nutrition Cluster with Concern, Action Against Hunger (ACF) and the World Food Program (WFP) and the WASH Cluster with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). Memorandums of Understanding have been signed between UNICEF and each co-lead agency at country-level to guide effective and efficient co-ordination and ensure clear roles and responsibilities of each party. UNICEF co-lead clusters and AoR are all part of the Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) led by OCHA at the national and sub-national levels.

Humanitarian Strategy

In 2019, in line with UNICEF's [Humanitarian Action for Children \(HAC\)](#) and the inter-agency [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\)](#), UNICEF continues to strengthen and expand its programmes. UNICEF will provide life-saving humanitarian assistance through a timely and effective integrated package of nutrition, health, WASH, child protection and education services delivered through interconnected, complementary responses. To ensure that support has a wide reach, services will be delivered through static operations, direct outreach and rapid response modalities. UNICEF's operations will be led by its 13 field offices to enable wide coverage and quality programming across the country. UNICEF's leadership of the nutrition and WASH clusters and child protection area of responsibility and its co-leadership of the education cluster will enable strategic planning, coordinated response, capacity building of partners and advocacy both at the national and state levels.

Emergency cash programming will be implemented through UNICEF's strong existing collaborations and inter-agency mechanisms such as the Cash Working Group. The response will expand in 2019 to include recovery and resilience

programming in selected field locations, including basic social service delivery, community-based system strengthening and accountability to affected populations.

UNICEF will invest in increasing the localization of aid in South Sudan through capacity building and targeted resource allocation. Following the peace deal, UNICEF will invest in building the capacities of central and sub-national state authorities.

In 2019, the IRRM will continue to prioritize hard-to-reach communities with urgent, life-saving interventions. WFP, FAO and UNICEF will consider deploying IRRMs to areas of the country that fit the criteria of extraordinary humanitarian needs in otherwise inaccessible locations. A partnership with WFP and the International Organization of Migration (IOM) on biometric registration will strengthen data collection, management, follow up, displacement tracking and harmonized reporting. UNICEF will roll out the systematic integration of biometric registration into the IRRM modality as well as pilot a Cash Based Approach into the IRRM package of intervention in locations benefiting from functional markets.

The IRRM is a critical instrument for delivering life-saving aid. In April 2019, five IRRM missions were postponed in Keew, Juaibor and Kuernyang of Fangak County, Kurwai and Pagner of Canal County due to the insecurity in those areas. However, UNICEF team were able to deploy five IRRM missions to Wathjak, Ying, Riang, Nyangore and Ulang in Upper Nile state. These missions took place along with WFP and FAO to conduct joint response along integrated Biometric Registration (BRM), using the SCOPE digital beneficiary management system. These multi-sectoral missions have reached 35,593 beneficiaries including 7,001 children under five years.

In 2019, a total of nine IRRM mission has been completed reaching a total of 93,905 Individuals and 18,092 children under five, in which four missions were done in Chuil, New Fangak, Old Fangak and Tonga Wathjak of Jonglei state and five missions were completed in Wathjak, Ying, Raing, Nyangore and Ulang of Upper Nile.

As operational costs continue to rise in South Sudan, the IRRM partnership will also revisit its business model to optimize efficiency gains by reducing its dependency on air assets and leveraging access by waterway and road to preposition IRRM supplies when and where possible.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health: UNICEF and partners reached 119,501 people (67,105 women; 52,396 men) with curative consultations, including 45,334 children under five years, through health facilities, community outreach and IRRMs. Most consultations concerned malaria (50 per cent), followed by acute respiratory infections (21 per cent). An additional 38,369 children 6 months-15 years (19,951 female; 18,418 male) were immunized against measles through health facilities, outreach activities, reactive vaccination and IRRM and a total of 5,333 families were provided with two long-lasting insecticide treated nets mosquito nets through UNICEF and partners to help prevent malaria especially among children and pregnant women. UNICEF supported the provision of antenatal care services to 5,264 pregnant women and 734 deliveries took place with assistance from skilled birth attendants, while 1,039 pregnant women were counselled and tested for HIV. Out of these, 18 tested positive and all were initiated on antiretroviral therapy (ART). In addition, 60 adolescents were counselled and tested for HIV, out of which 19 were positive and were initiated antiretroviral therapy (ART).

Measles outbreaks continues to be reported throughout the country. As of end of April, a total of 986 cases, leading to a total of six deaths have been reported, resulting in a case fatality rate of 0.6 per cent in 11 counties and three Protection of Civilian sites (PoCs). Locations included Jonglei (Bor PoC, Pibor), Lakes (Yirol East), Unity (Mayom, and Bentu Poc), Western Bahr el Ghazal (Abyei, Wau), Northern Bahr el Ghazal (Aweil Center, Aweil East, Aweil West, Aweil South), Upper Nile (Malakal, Melut), Warrap (Gogrial East, Gogrial West, Tonj North) and Central Equatoria (Juba). Affected age groups were largely between 0 and five years of age, with Pibor and Gogrial East having a significant case load from zero to fifteen years of age. A reactive vaccination was successfully completed in Aweil South and Melut, reaching a total of 38,369 children with immunization against measles.

The second round of the National Polio immunization campaign has been implemented from April 30 to May 6, targeting 3,158,099 children. The result is being compiled and will be shared in the next situation report.

Nutrition: UNICEF, in partnership with 40 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), is providing key nutrition interventions for children and women in all counties of the country. Since January 2019, more than 82,000 children affected by Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) were identified and treated with high quality services, representing 37 per cent of the annual SAM target. This represents a 14 per cent increase from the same period in 2018. The increase is attributed to improved access to services following the peace agreement. During the same period, infant and young child feeding counselling services reached more than 428,000 caregivers of children, representing 43.5 per cent of the annual target.

The nutrition cluster conducted the cluster coordination performance monitoring (CCPM) workshop, bringing all partners together for the validation of the report and development of the action plan to improve cluster performance. Out of a total of 75 partners, 58 completed the survey, leading to 77 per cent response rate. Performance status in relation to the 19 core functions of the Cluster showed 58 per cent rated as 'Good' performance, 42 per cent as 'Satisfactory' and none as 'Poor'.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH): UNICEF continued to provide WASH life-saving interventions through the creation of access to safe water and basic sanitation services to the vulnerable and affected host communities, POCs, and in IDPs in collective sites. As a result, a total of 383,807 targeted population have been provided with access to safe drinking water supply through water trucking, construction of new boreholes, rehabilitation of the non-functional water facilities and operation and maintenance of Surface water treatment (SWAT) systems. A total of 163,773 vulnerable people were supported with access to basic sanitation facilities through the construction and rehabilitation of emergency communal latrines, and household latrines. A total 170,011 people have also been reached with key hygiene promotion messages and total of 19,896 individuals have benefited from the distribution of core-pipeline supplies and WASH non-food items (NFIs) including jerrycans, buckets and soap. In addition, a total of 114 core pipeline requests for WASH essential supplies targeting more than half a million people in need throughout the country were processed by the WASH Cluster during the first quarter of 2019.

UNICEF's implementing partner have trained 92 community-based hygiene promoters to scale-up and increase community awareness on key hygiene promotion messages in Wau, Magwi and Torit counties. In Northern Bahr el Ghazal, five additional villages have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) raising the cumulative number to 44.

A total of 45 frontline health facilities have been supported with WASH Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) supplies, 160 staff members from health facilities were trained on IPC. UNICEF, with support from implementing partners, rehabilitated water supply and sanitation facilities and installed 98 handwashing facilities in 28 health care facilities and public places in potential risk locations. UNICEF continues to co-lead WASH IPC TWGs, whilst participating in a Strategic Advisory Group (SAG), National Task Force (NTF) and supporting state-level coordination and the identification of critical gaps and needs in collaboration with donors.

Education: Back to Learning initiative campaigns were launched at locations throughout the country, including Pibor, Yambio, Wau and Malakal. The launch in Pibor on 04 April was presided over by the State Governor and attended by the entire state cabinet, as well as the national Minister of General Education and Instruction, UNICEF representatives, and local children. In their speeches, the Minister and State Governor called on parents to send their children to school and expressed their appreciation for the role played by UNICEF and other education partners. A similar event which took place in Malakal on 16 April mobilised over 3,500 children and 300 parents from all functional primary schools in the town. High-level mobilisation efforts such as these helped to increase primary school enrolment by 163,045, including 32,368 girls, over the past month.

Through its implementing partners INTERSOS, Mercy Corps and World Relief, UNICEF rehabilitated 15 temporary learning spaces (TLS) in Mayiendit, Bentiu PoC, Rubkona, Bentiu, Guit and Koch (Unity state), thus providing better access to learning for 3,000 children. Rehabilitation of TLS were also reported from Aweil North County (Northern Bahr el Ghazal), Kinji primary school (Juba) and Kongor and Mayirenyi primary schools in Pibor (Jonglei).

UNICEF's implementing partners providing training on menstrual hygiene management and distributed dignity kits to more than 600 girls at schools in Mundu, Koryoki and Birigo (Western Equatoria), Juba, Magwi (Eastern Equatoria) and Fangak (Jonglei). The provision of dignity kits to girls is a vital tool in encouraging and enabling them to stay in school and finish their education.

Child Protection: UNICEF and partners reached 16,778 children (7,463 girls, 9,315 boys) with psychosocial support (PSS) activities in child-friendly spaces, schools and other community-based interventions in 10 former states. A total of 67 (34 girls; 33 boys) unaccompanied and separated children were registered in nine of the 10 former states.

A total of 40,436 individuals (12,990 girls; 14,996 boys; 7,411 women; 5,039 men) who are living in high-risk mine areas were reached with life-saving mine risk education messages in Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, Greater Equatoria and Western Bahr el Ghazal states. In addition, 12,450 community members (7,411 women, 5,039 men) received life-saving child protection messaging, including on prevention of family separation, recruitment into armed groups and grave child rights violations.

UNICEF with partners reached 3,840 people (1,244 girls; 1,220 boys; 792 women; 584 men) with GBV prevention (including awareness raising and social norms transformation), response services included individualized case management, PSS, skills building courses, access to women and girls friendly services, risk mitigation information and referrals for other specialized services. A total of 2,030 beneficiaries (920 girls; 750 boys; 180 women; 180 men) were reached directly with risk mitigation messages and 110 (40 adolescent girls; 70 women) continue to benefit from livelihoods and skills-building support in women and girl-friendly spaces (WGFS).

Communication for Development (C4D): UNICEF, in collaboration with WHO and partners supported the national and state level ministry of Health and County Health Departments to conduct communication, social mobilization and community engagement activities as part of the second round of the Integrated National Immunization Days Campaign. The campaign was integrated with nutrition interventions, targeting 0-5-year-old children with Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV), Vitamin A and deworming across the country. Prior to the campaign, over 2,500 community mobilizers were trained and deployed to conduct megaphone-assisted and house-to-house mobilization activities with parents and caregivers. Other activities included radio messaging and outreaches using public-address systems, display of information, education, and communication (IEC) materials and meetings with various stakeholders including community and religious leaders.

Cash-Based Programming: UNICEF is committed to the use of cash-based transfer (CBT) to improve outcomes for the children of South Sudan. In 2019, UNICEF will explore how CBT can best support and enforce the important work already done by UNICEF and its partners in South Sudan to increase efficiency and impact to benefit those in need. The work will be guided by the UNICEF 2019-2021 cash-based strategy overseen by a dedicated cash-based officer. A key component of the strategy is to strengthen UNICEF's preparedness and readiness of cash transfers in emergencies and ensure linkage between the Interagency Cash Working Group and the National Social Protection Working Group to guarantee linkages of CBT and the national social protection agenda.

UNICEF and Oxfam, in collaboration with the Urban Water Corporation, are preparing the upcoming Emergency Water Voucher Project in Wau in collaboration with WFP which will take place in May. This includes CBT training of staff in Wau and Juba, as well as strengthening partnerships with CBT actors.

Ebola Preparedness: UNICEF continued to support the government in Ebola preparedness activities through active participation in the Technical Working Group and taskforce meetings at state and national level. UNICEF is also supporting with cold chain management in the ongoing Ebola vaccination for selected frontline workers.

On Ebola Preparedness intervention, UNICEF, together with implementing partners, continue to support risk communication, social mobilization and community engagement activities including rumour tracking and feedback mechanism in all EVD high-risk areas. In Juba, UNICEF, together with Jubek State Ministry of Health and International Medical Corps (IMC), conducted sensitization workshop for community stakeholders that include city councillors, local chiefs, youth and women leaders, religious leaders and teachers. A total of 105 community leaders from various parts of Juba were sensitized to radio messaging including broadcasting of jingles and talk-shows with a focus on community

perceptions and practices around bush meat consumption. Pursuant to the rollout of an EVD Knowledges, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) study in ten selected EVD counties, the Ministry of Health has approved study tools, while data collection, team selection and training of national supervisors is ongoing. The national supervisors will be deployed to the respective counties to support the training of data collectors and data collection process.

Supply and Logistics

Multi sectoral supplies valued at USD 2,209,593 were dispatched directly to implementing partners country-wide and through warehouse to warehouse transfers as part of the Dry Season Prepositioning plan. The bulk of the dispatches comprised Nutrition supplies delivered to various locations and followed by WASH.

A total of 19 40-tonne haulage trucks were dispatched from the Juba warehouse to Bor, Yambio, and Mundri through the Logistics Cluster Humanitarian Convoy. A total of six trucks carrying WASH, Nutrition, Education and Child Protection supplies were also dispatched to Yei with the support of UNMISS Force Protection.

Media and External Communications

UNICEF issued [a press release](#), together with Save the Children, marking the 6,000 child to be reunited with its family since the conflict began. The chief of child protection was subsequently interviewed on Radio Miraya. The team also hosted journalists from the Japanese broadcaster, NHK, which produced reports on children used by armed groups and children suffering from acute malnutrition. Together with a consultant videographer, the section also produced videos on support to families returning to their communities, the importance of cold chain, for World Immunization Week, education for nomadic communities and on USAID support to the nutrition programme. A donor visibility project, creating four murals in remote field locations, was finalized. The country office's [new website](#) was also launched during the reporting period.

Security

The overall security situation in the first two weeks of April were relatively calm throughout the country with the exception of sporadic incidents of revenge killings, cattle raiding and harassment with increased criminality, particularly in Juba.

Disagreement between President Salva Kiir and Riek Machar over the formation of the Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU) on 12 May manifested itself throughout the month and parties to the R-ARCSS have been invited by the IGAD Special Envoy to South Sudan to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 02-03 May to discuss the status of implementation of Pre-Transitional Tasks and Formation of the R-TGoNU. Until pre-transitional achievements have been met, particularly the creation of joint security forces, particularly in Juba, and some agreement on boundaries, particularly the number of and boundaries of states, it is highly unlikely Riak Machar will return to South Sudan.

The 11 April removal of President al-Bashir led to the suspension of international flights to Juba due to closure of Sudan's airspace. The absence of Bashir, and existing power vacuum in Khartoum, may hold consequences for the future of the R-ARCSS as both the individual and country were considered critical to shepherding the peace process. There is concern that an influx of Sudanese refugees, as well as South Sudanese returnees, over the border into northern South Sudan may give rise to border closures having an economic impact on border communities. There are some concerns that humanitarian convoys across the border may also be affected.

Funding

As of April 2019, there is a funding gap of 63 per cent against UNICEF South Sudan's 2019 HAC requirements of USD 179.2 million. Funding available under HAC 2019 include carry-forward funds of USD 26.1 million from 2018 and USD 39.6 million funds received since January 2019. UNICEF wishes to express its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received.

REPORT AS OF 30TH APRIL 2019					
Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 31 Jan 2019 for a period of 12 months)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds Available		Funding Gap	
		Funds Received	C/F from 2018	Funding Gap (\$)	%
Health	11,201,300	383,401	3,221,412	7,596,486	68%
Nutrition	50,202,200	32,720,310	10,742,757	6,739,133	13%
WASH	45,587,000	3,171,105	1,678,452	40,737,443	89%
Education	43,740,000	474,200	7,693,857	35,571,943	81%
Child Protection	28,500,000	2,924,660	2,806,058	22,769,282	80%
Total	179,230,500	39,673,676	26,142,536	113,414,288	63%

- The figures indicated above are gross (including global recovery, but not programmable at CO level).

- HAC funded includes substantial carry-forward (C/F) funding from 2018, however figures are still provisional.

Next Situation Report: May 2019

UNICEF South Sudan Crisis: www.unicef.org/southsudan

UNICEF South Sudan Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicefsouthsudan

UNICEF South Sudan Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/>

Who to contact for further information:

Mohamed Ayoya
Country Representative
 UNICEF South Sudan
 Email: mayoya@unicef.org

Timothy James Irwin
Chief of Communications
 UNICEF South Sudan
 Email: tjirwin@unicef.org

Annex A

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS 2018

	Cluster for 2019		UNICEF and partners for 2019			
	Target (Jan-Dec)	Results (Apr)	Target (Jan-Dec)	Results (Apr)	Change since last report	%
NUTRITION						
# of children aged 6 to 59 months admitted for SAM treatment	220,700	82,253	220,700	82,253	29,515	37.3%
# of caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months reached with infant and young child feeding counselling	984,700	428,433	984,700	428,433	137,379	43.5%
HEALTH						
# of children 6 months-15 years in humanitarian situations vaccinated for measles			475,000	212,044	38,369	44.6%
# of children and women provided with two long-lasting insecticide treated nets (LLITN) distributed			200,000	79,284	20,942	39.6%
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE						
# people accessing the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	3,000,000	849,873	800,000	383,807	39,344	48.0%
# of people accessing appropriate sanitation facilities	3,000,000 ¹	380,624	300,000	163,773	6,770	54.6%
CHILD PROTECTION						
# of children reached with psychosocial support services	476,750	102,240	275,000	53,560	16,778	19.5%
# of girls, boys, women and men reached with gender-based violence prevention and response services			168,000	20,117	3,840	12.0%
EDUCATION						
# of children accessing quality formal or non-formal early learning, pre-primary, primary or secondary education	786,324	523,968	729,000	435,512	163,045	59.7%
# of teachers trained on education-in-emergencies basic pedagogy and learner-centred methodologies	10,000	4,934	5,500	4,354	852	79.2%

¹Discrepancies in the total cluster coverage on water access between Feb 2019 SitRep and March stem from the cluster focus on the Q1 2019 HRP strategic integrated indicators reported to OCHA. .